
REFUGEES, ASYLEES, FISCAL YEAR 1998

This report will appear as chapters in the forthcoming *1998 Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service*. All references to Appendixes, Charts, Tables, and other sections of the *Statistical Yearbook*, as well as detailed table numbers, appear as they will in the final *Yearbook* edition.

II. REFUGEES

This section presents information on persons who are admitted to the United States because of persecution abroad, including the number and characteristics of persons applying, approved, arriving, and adjusting to lawful permanent resident status.

A refugee is an alien outside the United States who is unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. (See Appendix 3, p. A.3-9.)

Claims of persecution must be based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.¹ Persons within their country of nationality may be treated as refugees, provided that the President, after consultation with Congress, declares that they are of special humanitarian concern to the United States. The definition of refugee set forth in the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended by the Refugee Act of 1980, (see Appendix 1, p. A.1-18) conforms to the 1967 United Nations Protocol on Refugees.

U.S. Refugee Program

The United States first recognized refugees for entry into the country in fiscal year 1946. After that time many different refugee programs were enacted on an ad hoc basis, including the Displaced Persons Act (see Appendix 1, p. A.1-10) and the Cuban and Indochinese Refugee Adjustment Acts. During the first decade of refugee programs, virtually all refugees entered the United States as immigrants. Since 1957, most refugees either have been paroled into the United States under special authority granted to the Attorney General by the Immigration and Nationality Act, or have entered in a statutory refugee status, to be adjusted to lawful permanent resident status at a later date.

Chart F depicts initial refugee admissions and adjustments to lawful permanent resident status for the period 1946-98. This graph demonstrates the time lag between initial admission and adjustment to immigrant status. At the

onset of parole programs there generally were no mechanisms for adjustment to permanent status, thus creating a recurring need for special legislation. The Refugee Act of 1980 addressed this situation by providing for routine adjustment of status by refugees one year after arrival.

Admission ceilings

At the beginning of each fiscal year, the President, after consultation with Congress to review the worldwide refugee situation, determines the number of refugees in need of resettlement who are of special humanitarian concern to the United States. The President then establishes the authorized number of admissions for that fiscal year. During the year, changes in the need for resettlement may require revisions in the overall limit on refugee admissions or reallocation among areas of the world. The admission ceiling of 83,000 for 1998 was established and later reallocated among geographic regions as follows:

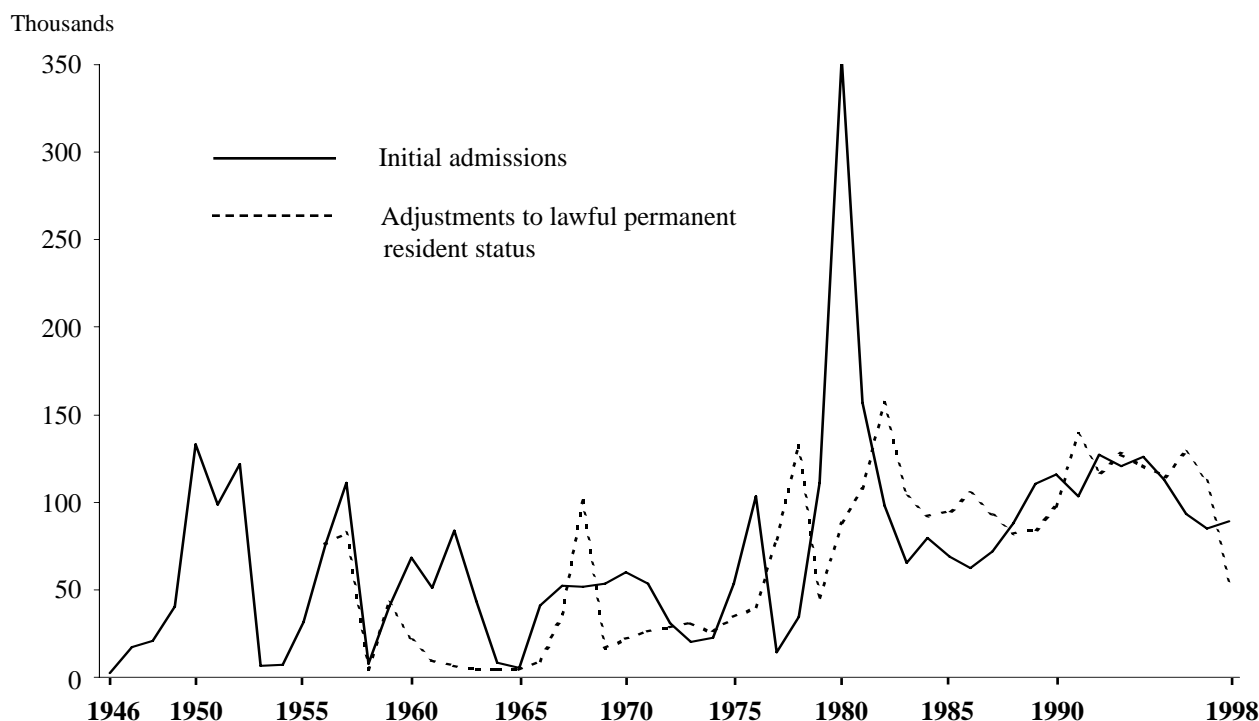
Geographic region of origin	Initial ceiling	Final ceiling
Total	83,000	83,000
Africa	7,000	7,000
East Asia	14,000	14,000
Eastern Europe / Soviet Union (fmr.)	51,000	54,000
Latin America / Caribbean	4,000	4,000
Near East / South Asia	4,000	4,000
Unallocated, funded	3,000	-

- Represents zero.

The authorized admission levels set the maximum number of refugees allowed to enter the United States in a fiscal year from each of the geographic areas of chargeability. The authorized ceiling was increased from 78,000 in 1997 to 83,000 in 1998, interrupting a downward trend since the peak of 142,000 in 1992. An unallocated funded reserve of 3,000 was placed in the 1998 ceiling to allow for small increases in one or more areas as needed without subtracting refugee authorized admissions from other areas.

¹ The Illegal Immigration Reform and Individual Responsibility Act of 1996, enacted September 30, 1996, Sec. 601, stipulates that a person qualifies as a refugee or asylee persecuted for political opinion if forced to undergo, has a well-founded fear of being compelled to undergo, or resists a coercive population-control procedure. Also, the Act set a combined annual ceiling of 1,000 persons who may be granted refugee or asylee status under this provision.

Chart F
Refugee and Asylee Initial Admissions and Adjustments to Lawful Permanent Resident Status: Fiscal Years 1946-98



Major refugee programs

1949-53	Displaced Persons Act	1978-84	Indochinese Refugee Adjustment Act	3/75-3/80	Indochinese refugees paroled
1954-57	Refugee Relief Act			1980	Refugee-Parolee adjustments began
11/56-7/58	Hungarians paroled	2/70-3/80	Refugee-Parolees admitted	4/80	Refugee Act admissions began
1959	Hungarian adjustments began	1/59-3/80	Cubans paroled	1981	Refugee Act adjustments began
1966-80	Refugee conditional entrants	1967	Cuban adjustments began	4/80-10/80	Mariel boatlift
				1985-87	Mariel adjustments

NOTE: For the period 1946-56, admissions to lawful permanent resident status and initial admissions were the same. See Glossary for fiscal year definitions.
Source: Tables 24, 28, and 32.

The ceiling for East Asia includes certain Vietnamese Amerasians, who enter the United States with immigrant visas. Although these aliens are immigrants rather than refugees, they are included in the refugee ceiling since they are eligible for refugee benefits in the United States. Only 373 Amerasians, including their family members, entered the United States in 1998. They are included in the immigrant rather than the refugee tables in the *Statistical Yearbook*. The Amerasian program is ending, since most of the eligible persons have already been identified and entered the United States.

Criteria for refugee status

During 1998, refugees were interviewed and approved for admission to the United States by officers in nine of the Service's forty overseas offices. To qualify for admission to the United States as a refugee, each applicant must meet

all of the following criteria: be a refugee as set forth in the Refugee Act of 1980; be among the types of refugees determined to be of special humanitarian concern to the United States; be admissible under the Immigration and Nationality Act; and not be firmly resettled in any foreign country. Spouses and minor children of qualifying refugees also enter the United States as refugees, either accompanying or following to join the principal refugee. Occasionally these family members gain refugee status after arriving in the United States; this was the case with 78 people in 1998.

Special program for applicants from the former Soviet Union (Table 22)

Beginning in 1990, the administrative processing of refugee applicants residing in the Soviet Union was shifted to the United States. The resulting change in the

Table D
Refugee Status Applications Filed and Approved, and Refugees Admitted, by Selected Nationality: Fiscal Year 1998

Nationality	Refugee applications filed	Refugee applications approved	Refugee arrivals
Total	124,777	73,198	76,181
Yugoslavia	44,272	27,916	30,906
Bosnia-Herzegovina	41,156	25,393	30,906
Croatia	3,111	2,520	-
Other & unknown	5	3	-
Soviet Union, former	35,008	18,748	23,349
Vietnam	17,240	12,698	10,288
Cuba	8,258	1,169	1,587
Liberia	4,228	3,009	1,494
Sudan	3,538	1,391	1,252
Iraq	2,982	2,184	1,407
Somalia	2,638	2,396	2,951
Ethiopia	2,103	258	152
Iran	1,691	1,662	1,699
Sierra Leone	1,041	370	176
Other	1,778	1,397	920

- Represents zero. Source: Tables 23 and 25.

application procedure created discontinuity with prior INS data on refugee applications. Applicants from the former Soviet Union are now required to submit an initial questionnaire to the State Department's Washington Processing Center (WPC) in Rosslyn, Virginia. The WPC establishes interview priority for applications based on information supplied on the initial questionnaires and schedules interviews in Moscow. On the day of their interview, applicants submit completed refugee applications to Service officers in Moscow. Since 1990, those applications have been counted as filed on the interview date.

The number of initial questionnaires received at the WPC provides only a rough indication of the potential number of applications, because a questionnaire may include more than one person, and some potential applicants submit duplicate questionnaires. Some questionnaires never result in formal applications for refugee status, because they might exceed the yearly admissions allocated for the former Soviet Union. During fiscal year 1998, the WPC received 3,055 questionnaires and scheduled 44,893 persons for Moscow interviews. About 20 percent of these potential applicants did not appear for their interviews. Applicants from the former Soviet Union who were in other countries at the start of fiscal year 1990 are still allowed to submit applications for refugee status directly to

other INS refugee processing posts. Only 31 Soviet applications were filed outside of Moscow in 1998, including 6 spouses and children who received refugee status in the United States.

Data Overview

Applications (Tables D, 22, 23)

The number of applications for refugee status filed with the INS changed very little from 1997 (122,741) to 1998 (124,777) (Table 22). The leading countries of chargeability of the applicants were Bosnia-Herzegovina with 33 percent of the applications, the former Soviet Union (28), Vietnam (14), and Cuba (7) (Table D and Table 23). Among those countries of chargeability from which at least 1,000 applications were filed in 1998, the largest percentage increases over 1997 were in applications filed by nationals from Sierra Leone (from 17 to 1,041), Ethiopia (210 to 2,103), Sudan (602 to 3,538), Croatia (1,170 to 3,111), and Liberia (1,620 to 4,228); the largest percentage decreases were in applications filed by nationals of Somalia (from 6,510 to 2,638), Iraq (4,573 to 2,982), Iran (2,244 to 1,691), and Vietnam (19,552 to 17,240). Overall, among the five geographic regions of chargeability from which applications for refugee status were filed in 1998, applications filed by nationals from Africa and Eastern Europe increased about 26 and 6

percent, respectively, while those filed by nationals from the Near East, East Asia, and Latin America geographic regions decreased 30, 12, and 9 percent, respectively, over 1997.

Approvals (Tables D, 22, 23, 24)

The total number of refugees approved for admission to the United States was 6 percent lower in 1998 (73,198) than in 1997 (77,600) (Table 24). The leading countries of chargeability were Bosnia-Herzegovina with 25,393 approvals, the former Soviet Union (18,748), Vietnam (12,698), Liberia (3,009), Croatia (2,520), Somalia (2,396), and Iraq (2,184) (Table D and Table 23). These seven countries accounted for 91 percent of all approvals in 1998. The number approved from the former Soviet Union decreased 32 percent from 1997, reflecting a downward trend in applications in the past six years. The numbers of refugees approved from the East Asia and Africa geographic regions increased by 89 and 8 percent, respectively, in 1998. The significant increase in the East Asia geographic region was attributed to a large increase (95 percent) in the number of refugees approved from Vietnam. All Vietnamese refugee processing centers outside Vietnam were closed by the end of 1997. Residents of former refugee camps were asked to return to Vietnam. Their cases are processed through a special program called the Resettlement of Vietnamese Returnees (ROVR) in Vietnam. The ROVR program adjudicated 13,637 cases and approved 11,774 cases in 1998.

Dependents

Refugee figures include spouses and children who are cleared to join principal refugees already in the United States, and they count against the annual ceiling. Because of these family reunification cases, the data continue to show refugees being approved and arriving for some time after active refugee processing has ended for nationals of certain countries. Most of the refugee flow from Eastern Europe in fiscal year 1998, other than from the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, was family reunification cases. Overall, 2.3 percent of the applications and 2.8 percent of the approvals were family reunification cases. In comparison with the number of applications filed and refugees approved within each geographic region, the Africa region had the highest percentage of family reunification cases in both categories, 7.0 and 11.1 percent, respectively.

Arrivals (Tables 24, 25)

Refugee arrivals into the United States increased to 76,181 in 1998 from 69,276 in 1997 (Tables 24 and 25).² The

More than 76,000 refugees arrived in the United States during 1998.

increase was largely attributed to the increase in refugee arrivals from Liberia, Sudan, Vietnam, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The former Yugoslavia (30,906), former Soviet Union (23,349), Vietnam (10,288), and Somalia (2,951) were the leading countries for refugee arrivals in 1998, comprising 89 percent of the total. The time lag between approval of a refugee application and the refugee's arrival in the United States may be several months or more. After approval, refugees must undergo health and security clearances, have sponsorship and placement arranged, and in some cases go through orientation and English language training. This time lag accounts for the discrepancies between approval and arrival figures in any given year.

Understanding the Data

Data Collection

The Immigration and Naturalization Service collects data on refugees at three points during processing: when they apply for refugee status abroad; when they are admitted to the United States; and when they adjust to lawful permanent resident status. The INS overseas offices collect data on applicants for refugee status. Each office completes INS Form G-319, Report of Applicants for Refugee Status under Section 207, which reports refugee casework by the country to which each applicant is chargeable.

Since 1987, the INS's Nonimmigrant Information System has collected data on refugee arrivals. The system compiles refugee arrival data by country of citizenship on a monthly basis from INS Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record (see Nonimmigrants section). Since it records each entry of a person with nonimmigrant status, a refugee traveling abroad and returning to the United States may be counted more than once during a fiscal year.

Both the Bureau for Refugee Programs (Department of State) and the Office of Refugee Resettlement (Department of Health and Human Services) collect data on refugees admitted to the United States. The Bureau for Refugee Programs collects data through the Intergovernmental Organization for Migration, which is the agency responsible for arranging the transportation of refugees to the United States. The Office of Refugee Resettlement, responsible for the disbursement of funds for refugee benefits, collects detailed data on the characteristics of refugees at the time they are initially admitted to the United States.

² Refugee arrival data are from the Bureau for Refugee Programs, Department of State. See Data Collection section.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service collects data on refugees adjusting to lawful permanent resident status as part of its immigrant data series gathered by the Computer Linked Application Information Management Systems (CLAIMS). The data collected include demographic variables as well as immigration-oriented variables (see Immigrants section). This is the only stage in the refugee process where the INS collects detailed information about the characteristics of refugees.

Limitations of Data

Prior to the 1996 edition, refugee arrival data presented in the *Statistical Yearbook* were derived from the INS's

Nonimmigrant Information System (NIIS). However, since this system records each entry of a person with nonimmigrant status, a refugee traveling abroad and returning to the United States may be counted more than once during a fiscal year. After careful consideration of the reporting requirements and limitations of data collected in the NIIS, it was decided that the *Yearbook* would present refugee arrival statistics from the Bureau for Refugee Programs, Department of State. This source counts the actual number of refugees arriving in the United States in each fiscal year. Therefore, any comparison of refugee arrival data from the 1995 or earlier editions of the *Yearbook* to 1996 or later editions must be made with caution.

Refugee detailed tables are located at the end of the Asylees text section

III. ASYLEES

This section presents information on persons who come to the United States to seek asylum from persecution abroad, including the number and characteristics of persons who filed, were granted asylum, and adjusted to lawful permanent resident status.

An asylee is an alien in the United States who is unable or unwilling to return to his or her country of nationality because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. (See Appendix 3, p. A.3-2.) An asylee must meet the same criteria as a refugee; the only difference is the location of the person upon application—the potential asylee is in the United States or applying for admission at a port of entry, and the potential refugee is outside the United States. The Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended by the Refugee Act of 1980, regulates U.S. asylum policy as well as governing refugee procedures. The Act, for the first time, established a statutory basis for granting asylum in the United States consistent with the 1967 United Nations Protocol on Refugees.

U.S. Asylum Program

Filing of claims

Any alien physically present in the United States or at a port of entry may request asylum in the United States. According to the Refugee Act, current immigration status, whether legal or illegal, is not relevant to an applicant's asylum claim. Aliens may apply for asylum in one of two ways: with an INS asylum officer; or, if apprehended, with an immigration judge as part of a deportation or exclusion hearing. Traditionally, aliens who appear at ports of entry without proper documents and request asylum were referred for exclusion hearings; however, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA) (see Appendix 1, p. A.1-23) made major revisions to the procedure, that became effective on April 1, 1997. Under the new law, such aliens are referred to asylum officers for credible fear interviews. These interviews are not formal asylum hearings. The purpose of the interviews is to determine whether aliens might have credible fear of persecution and thus be eligible to apply for asylum before an immigration judge. In credible fear interviews, aliens only need to show that there is a significant possibility that they might qualify for asylum. To be granted asylum, aliens must show convincing evidence of a well-founded fear of persecution. Those who fail to demonstrate that they have a significant possibility for establishing eligibility for asylum are placed in

expedited removal proceedings. However, upon the alien's request, an immigration judge may review the outcome of the interview. The data reported in this section pertain only to asylum cases filed with INS asylum officers. Aliens denied asylum by the INS may renew asylum claims with an immigration judge.

Adjudication of claims

On April 2, 1991, the Asylum Officer Corps (AOC) assumed responsibility within INS for the adjudication of asylum claims that were filed with the INS. Before that date, such claims had been heard by examiners in INS district offices. During fiscal year 1998, asylum officers worked from eight sites in the United States—Arlington, VA, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, Newark, NJ, and San Francisco. Applicants who did not live near these locations were interviewed by asylum officers who traveled to other INS offices.

In March 1994, the INS published proposed regulations designed to streamline the asylum decision process, discourage the filing of frivolous claims, and integrate the work of asylum officers with the work of the immigration judges in the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR, an independent Justice Department agency) in the case of claims that do not appear to meet the standards for granting asylum. The final asylum reform regulations were published in December 1994, and took effect on January 4, 1995.

Under asylum reform the INS standard is to conduct the asylum interview within 60 days after the claim is filed, and to identify and grant in a timely fashion those cases that have merit. If the INS asylum officer does not find the claim to be grantable at the interview, the applicant is referred immediately for deportation proceedings before EOIR (unless a nonimmigrant status is still valid). The immigration judge may grant the claim or may issue a denial and an order of deportation. Under this system INS asylum officers issue relatively few denials, but an interview followed by a referral to EOIR represents the asylum officer's judgment that the application is not readily grantable. An applicant who fails without good cause to keep a scheduled appointment for an asylum

interview is referred immediately to EOIR for deportation; this is considered to be one type of case closure.

Starting in 1997, the AOC also began conducting credible fear interviews as required by IIRIRA, and interviewing applicants for refugee status at the INS overseas locations. During fiscal year 1998, asylum officers interviewed refugee applicants at six overseas locations—Croatia, Cuba, Germany, Kenya, Russia, and Vietnam.

More than 55,000 asylum applications were filed in the United States during 1998.

Data Overview

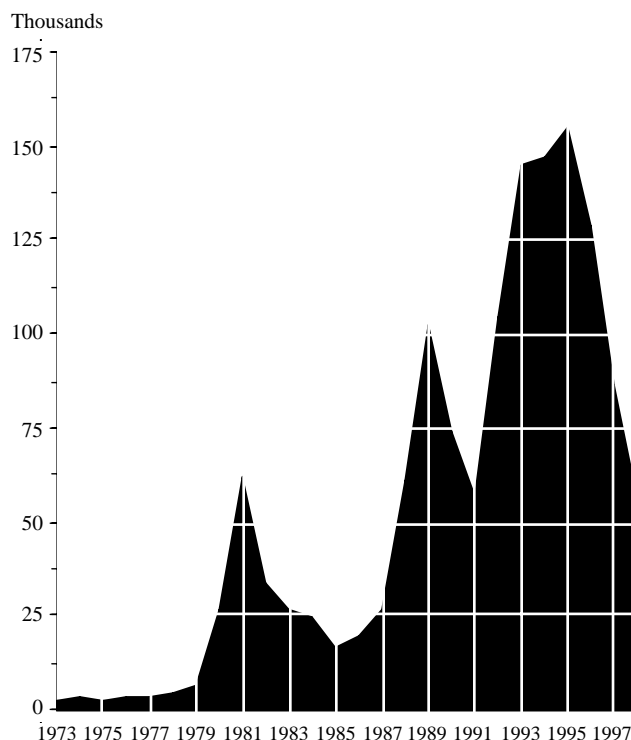
Applications filed (Chart G, Tables 27, 29, 30)

The annual number of asylum applications filed with the INS has fluctuated greatly since the effective date of the Refugee Act of 1980 (see Appendix 1, p. A.1-18), as shown in Chart G. In fiscal year 1998, 55,428 asylum cases were filed or reopened. This represents a 35 percent decrease from the 85,866 cases filed in 1997 (Table 27). The sharp decline in 1998 was due largely to significant decreases in claims filed or reopened by nationals of Mexico, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Haiti, and El Salvador.

In 1998, 35,903 new claims were filed with the INS. Nearly 4,500 new claims were filed by Mexicans, with more than 3,800 by Salvadorans. The People's Republic of China, with 3,075 new claims, ranked third, followed by Haiti (2,720), Guatemala (2,666), and Somalia (2,305) (Table 28). About two thirds of the new claims received (23,624) were filed by male applicants. Excluding the 3,923 claims filed or reopened under the terms of the ABC settlement, more than 51,500 applications were received during 1998, a decrease of nearly 38 percent from fiscal year 1997.

More than 19,500 asylum cases were reopened in 1998, which accounted for 35 percent of the applications received (Table 29). The leading countries of nationality of the reopened cases were Guatemala (3,230), the People's Republic of China (2,675), El Salvador (2,498), and Mexico (2,203). The number of reopened cases has increased significantly since May 1995. This is due to an automatic function which triggers the reopening of cases that were administratively closed when aliens apply for renewal of their employment authorization. Those cases were administratively closed due to a failure to appear for the asylum interview or for an invalid mailing address. This function also automatically reschedules an interview.

Chart G
Asylum Applications Filed with the INS:
Fiscal Years 1973-98



NOTE: See Glossary for fiscal year definitions. Source: Table 27.

Under the new regulation, those who do not appear for the scheduled interview can be placed in removal proceedings immediately. Some of these reopened cases may qualify for ABC treatment.

Trends in asylum applications filed by nationals from Central America (Tables E, 29)

For over a decade, nationals from Central America dominated the annual number of asylum applications filed in the United States. From 1986 to 1992, about half of all asylum applications were filed by Central Americans. In 1993 and 1994, that percentage had fallen somewhat, but it remained at about 40 percent of the total applications filed. Then, the number of applicants from Central America surged to a new height in the next two years, well over half of all asylum applicants. A sharp decline in cases filed by Nicaraguans was offset by a sharp increase from Guatemalans, and Salvadorans, later. Beginning in 1997, the numbers started a sharp decline due largely to a significant decrease in claims filed or reopened under the terms of the American Baptist Churches (ABC) v. Thornburgh settlement (see discussion below) because of the termination of the ABC filing period. As a result, Central Americans accounted for about 20 percent of the new claims and 25 percent of the total in 1998. The trend in claims from Central America is shown in Table E.

Table E
Asylum Applications Filed with the INS by Central Americans: Fiscal Years 1992-98

Area of citizenship	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Central America	53,966	54,898	62,310	104,228	83,410	21,599	13,904
Nicaragua	2,075	3,180	4,682	1,908	2,034	1,674	819
El Salvador	6,781	14,616	18,600	75,860	65,588	8,156	6,345
Guatemala	43,915	34,198	34,433	23,202	13,892	9,811	5,896
Honduras	1,127	2,805	4,385	3,163	1,836	1,851	809
Other	68	99	209	95	60	107	35

Source: Table 29; applications received and reopened during year.

In the past few years, the trend in asylum claims filed or reopened by nationals from Central America has been driven in large part by ABC cases. Under the terms of this 1991 class action lawsuit settlement, many nationals of El Salvador and Guatemala were allowed to file or renew their claims for asylum. Nationals of Guatemala had a filing deadline of March 31, 1992, which was the peak year for claims from this country. The 187,000 Salvadorans who had registered for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in 1991 became eligible to file for asylum at the expiration of their TPS period in 1992. They were later granted additional time under deferred enforced departure periods which extended until December 1994, and they ultimately had until January 31, 1996 to apply for asylum under the ABC agreement. The number of ABC claims filed by Salvadorans surged during fiscal year 1996 before the filing deadline. These claims are heard under the pre-reform regulations. Applications filed after the ABC filing deadline were processed as reform filings, except those ABC cases that were closed by the EOIR or federal courts and were not previously filed with the INS. Under the settlement, once the latter cases are identified by the INS, they are treated as ABC filings instead of reform filings. During 1998, 3,923 cases were identified as either filed or reopened as ABC cases.

On November 19, 1997, the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act (NACARA) was signed into law. Section 203 of the NACARA permits certain Guatemalans, Salvadorans and nationals of former Soviet bloc countries to apply for suspension of deportation or special rule cancellation of removal under the more generous standards in effect before the 1996 immigration law. Individuals granted relief under NACARA are permitted to remain in the United States as lawful permanent resident aliens. All ABC class members, who are eligible for ABC benefits and have asylum applications

pending with the INS, are also eligible to apply for the NACARA benefits with the INS Asylum Program.

Cases completed (Tables 27, 28, 29, 30)

During fiscal year 1998, the Asylum Officer Corps completed work on 85,737 claims and adjudicated about 50 percent (42,738) of them (Table 27). The number of cases granted in 1998 was 9,949, representing 23.3 percent of the cases adjudicated compared to the 19.1 percent approval rate in fiscal year 1997. These cases encompassed 12,951 persons given asylum (Tables 28 and 29). The leading countries of nationality were Somalia with 1,208 granted cases, the former Soviet Union (864), the People's Republic of China (508), Iran (496), Ethiopia (489), and Liberia (405) (Table 29).

Coercive population-control procedures

Section 601 of the IIRIRA stipulates that a person qualifies as a refugee or asylee persecuted for political opinion if forced to undergo, has a well founded fear of being compelled to undergo, or resists a coercive population-control procedure. It sets a combined annual ceiling of 1,000 persons who may be granted refugee or asylee status under this provision. Both the INS and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) grant conditional asylee status to qualified applicants each year under this provision—status that is not subject to the 1,000 annual ceiling. At the beginning of a new fiscal year, the INS Asylum Office issues 1,000 final grants—counted toward the annual ceiling of the previous year—to those who have received a conditional asylee status from either agency in previous fiscal years. The selection criterion for final grants is the date of the conditional grants. Those who received their conditional grants earlier would receive their final grants first. At the beginning of fiscal year 1999, the INS issued the 1,000 fiscal year 1998 final grants for asylum status to 185 individuals who received their

conditional grants from INS, 114 whose conditional grants were made by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and 701 whose conditional grants were made by immigration judges in the previous fiscal year. China was the country of origin of all grants. No one was granted refugee status in fiscal year 1998 based on coercive population-control measures.

Cases pending (Tables 29, 30)

The number of asylum cases pending for adjudication decreased about 10 percent, from 399,826 in 1997 to 360,247 in 1998. Cases filed by nationals of El Salvador (180,991), Guatemala (105,207), Nicaragua (15,134), and Haiti (14,876) accounted for more than 87 percent of the pending cases. The ABC cases, which also can be handled under the NACARA provisions, comprised more than 90 percent of Salvadoran and Guatemalan, and 70 percent of all pending cases. A large number of Nicaraguan and Haitian pending cases also will be eligible for the NACARA benefits.

Credible fear interviews

During fiscal year 1998, about 3,400 aliens appeared at ports of entry without proper documents and requested asylum. They were subsequently referred to asylum officers for credible fear interviews. Nationals of Sri Lanka submitted the most applications (608), followed by the People's Republic of China (582) and Haiti (384). These three countries accounted for almost 46 percent of all application in 1998. It should be noted that some applicants might change their opinions and decide to withdraw their asylum applications before a credible fear interview takes place. The Asylum Officer Corps conducted 2,726 credible fear interviews in 1998. The total approval rate for the interviewed cases was about 95.9 percent.

Understanding the Data

Tables 29 and 30 contain a column showing the number of applications that were reopened during the year. Most of these are cases that had been closed earlier without a decision. The number of asylum applications filed is defined here as the sum of new applications received and applications reopened during the year. The tabulations also contain columns showing the number of cases referred to immigration judges, with and without an interview. A referral due to failure to keep an appointment for an interview without good cause is considered comparable, for statistical purposes, to a closed case. The approval rate is calculated as the number of cases approved divided by the number of cases adjudicated, which is defined as the cases approved, denied, and referred to EOIR following an interview.

Data Collection

Prior to April 1, 1991, data on asylum applicants reflect cases filed with INS district directors and, subsequently, cases filed with INS asylum officers on Form I-589 (Request for Asylum in the United States). A centralized, automated data system (Refugee, Asylum, and Parole System—RAPS) has been developed to support the processing of the existing caseload and new asylum applications. The system is designed to support case tracking, schedule and control interviews, and generate management and statistical reports. The system is capable of reporting asylum casework by nationality and other characteristics of asylum applicants. Data can be reported by case or by the number of persons covered, since a case may include more than one person. Data on asylum applicants have been collected by the INS for selected nationalities since July 1980, and for all nationalities since June 1983.

As with refugees, the Immigration and Naturalization Service collects data on asylees adjusting to lawful permanent resident status in the Computer Linked Application Information Management Systems (CLAIMS) (see Immigrants section). Adjustment to immigrant status has been the only point at which detailed characteristics of asylees were collected in past years. The RAPS system is now able to provide data on selected characteristics of asylees at an earlier time.

Limitations of Data

The figures shown here for fiscal year 1998 differ slightly from preliminary statistics released by the Asylum Division in November 1998. The data presented here were tabulated from the RAPS system three months after the close of the fiscal year and incorporate late additions and corrections to the database. Cases entered into the RAPS system during fiscal year 1998 with filing dates in previous fiscal years were treated as new cases in these tabulations. Other corrections resulted in a decrease from 399,826 to 397,809 in the pending caseload as reported in the 1997 *Statistical Yearbook* and at the beginning of fiscal year 1998 in this edition. Another change between 1997 and 1998 concerns the identification of applicants from the former Soviet Union whose records are now being assigned to one of the succeeding republics. Therefore, the pending number of cases from "Unknown republic" decreased, and the numbers for Armenia, Russia, Ukraine, and other republics increased.

It is possible for an asylum case to have more than one action during a year, particularly if the claimant fails to pursue a claim and later reopens it. Therefore, some claims may be double-counted as received and reopened,

or closed and denied or granted. For this reason, and due to recent growth in the number of reopened claims, the pending caseload at the end of the year can no longer be calculated by taking the pending caseload at the beginning of the year, adding claims filed, and subtracting claims completed.

Data on applicants for asylum collected by the Immigration and Naturalization Service historically have covered only cases filed with the INS. Information has not been available on cases filed by apprehended aliens or cases denied or referred by the INS and renewed with immigration judges in the Executive Office for Immigration Review. The two agencies are working to integrate their data systems to provide these data in the future. Principal

applicants whose asylum applications are successful can apply for their spouses and minor children, whether they are in the United States or abroad, and these relatives also receive status as asylees. The RAPS system collects information on the spouses and children of asylum applicants only if they are included on the principal's application. Information regarding relatives whose principals petition for them after receiving asylum is collected by the CLAIMS and is not included in any calculation in this publication. The data collected by the INS at the time asylees adjust to permanent resident status include all aliens who adjust regardless of whether they were granted asylum by the INS, immigration judges, or the BIA. Adjustment data also include spouses and children of persons granted asylum.

TABLE 22. REFUGEE-STATUS APPLICATIONS: FISCAL YEARS 1980-98

Year	Applications pending beginning of year	Applications filed during year	Applications approved during year	Applications denied during year	Applications otherwise closed during year	Applications pending end of year
1980 (April-Sept.) ..	16,642	95,241	89,580	6,149	1,197	14,957
1981	14,957	178,273	155,291	15,322	3,998	18,619
1982	18,619	76,150	61,527	14,943	6,631	11,668
1983	11,668	92,522	73,645	20,255	2,489	7,801
1984	7,801	99,636	77,932	16,220	604	12,681
1985	12,681	80,734	59,436	18,430	1,842	13,707
1986	13,707	67,310	52,081	9,679	3,362	15,895
1987	15,895	85,823	61,529	13,911	6,126	20,152
1988	20,152	105,024	80,282	11,821	5,632	27,441
1989	27,441	190,597	95,505	33,179	4,005	85,349
1990	39,524	135,251	99,697	29,805	24,904	20,369
1991	20,369	123,492	107,962	12,644	5,700	17,555
1992	18,238	133,786	115,330	14,886	6,780	15,028
1993	15,028	127,676	106,026	20,280	5,107	11,291
1994	15,582	142,068	105,137	20,557	19,485	12,471
1995	12,471	143,223	78,936	32,412	34,251	10,095
1996	10,095	155,868	74,491	26,317	59,589	5,566
1997	5,566	122,741	77,600	22,725	17,270	10,712
1998	10,712	124,777	73,198	31,001	6,768	24,522

NOTE: The Refugee Act of 1980 went into effect April 1, 1980. Because of an administrative processing change, 45,825 applications pending in Moscow at the end of fiscal year 1989 were administratively closed and added to the pool of initial questionnaires submitted to the Washington Processing Center (WPC) beginning in 1990. Changes in the number of applications pending from 1991 to 1992 and 1993 to 1994 are due to revisions in the data from reporting offices.

**TABLE 23. REFUGEE-STATUS APPLICATIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF CHARGEABILITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998**

Geographic area and country of chargeability	Applications pending beginning of year	Applications filed during year	Applications approved during year	Applications denied during year	Applications otherwise closed during year	Applications pending end of year
All countries	10,712	124,777	73,198	31,001	6,768	24,522
Africa	633	14,864	8,443	1,827	301	4,926
Algeria	-	3	3	-	-	-
Angola	-	1	-	1	-	-
Benin	-	1	-	-	-	1
Burundi	9	300	217	72	2	18
Cameroon	5	20	16	5	-	4
Central Africa	-	5	1	-	-	4
Chad	5	67	52	6	-	14
Congo, Democratic Republic	76	102	65	9	37	67
Cote d'Ivoire	-	4	1	-	-	3
Djibouti	-	19	19	-	-	-
Eritrea	3	8	10	-	-	1
Ethiopia	50	2,103	258	94	13	1,788
Gambia, The	-	54	44	10	-	-
Ghana	-	8	-	5	-	3
Guinea-Bissau	2	1	1	-	-	2
Kenya	-	16	16	-	-	-
Liberia	31	4,228	3,009	491	26	733
Mauritania	-	3	2	-	-	1
Nigeria	3	408	338	28	6	39
Rwanda	9	227	190	22	8	16
Sierra Leone	3	1,041	370	339	17	318
Somalia	304	2,638	2,396	237	116	193
South Africa	2	-	-	-	2	-
Sudan	122	3,538	1,391	500	70	1,699
Togo	3	61	37	5	1	21
Tunisia	-	3	3	-	-	-
Uganda	6	5	4	3	3	1
East Asia	4	17,462	12,881	2,551	2,031	3
Burma	-	216	178	38	-	-
Cambodia	-	2	2	-	-	-
China, People's Rep.	-	2	2	-	-	-
Indonesia	-	1	1	-	-	-
Sri Lanka	-	1	-	-	1	-
Vietnam	4	17,240	12,698	2,513	2,030	3
Eastern Europe and Soviet Union	8,963	79,298	46,671	19,942	2,696	18,952
Albania	35	10	3	-	15	27
Bulgaria	1	-	-	-	1	-
Czechoslovakia, fmr.	1	-	-	-	1	-
Poland	11	8	2	-	6	11
Romania	24	-	2	-	21	1
Soviet Union, fmr.	17	35,008	18,748	16,266	2	9
Armenia	-	19	19	-	-	-
Russia	-	6	6	-	-	-
Ukraine	-	1	-	-	-	1
Uzbekistan	10	-	10	-	-	-
Unknown rep.	7	34,982	18,713	16,266	2	8
Yugoslavia, former Bosnia- Herzegovina ...	8,874	44,272	27,916	3,676	2,650	18,904
Croatia	8,618	41,156	25,393	3,600	2,642	18,139
Slovenia	253	3,111	2,520	76	6	762
Unknown	-	2	2	-	-	-
	3	3	1	-	2	3

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 23. REFUGEE-STATUS APPLICATIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF CHARGEABILITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Geographic area and country of chargeability	Applications pending beginning of year	Applications filed during year	Applications approved during year	Applications denied during year	Applications otherwise closed during year	Applications pending end of year
Latin America	-	8,297	1,208	5,723	1,366	-
Cuba	-	8,258	1,169	5,723	1,366	-
Haiti	-	39	39	-	-	-
Near East	1,112	4,792	3,931	958	374	641
Afghanistan	23	114	85	-	2	50
Iran	614	1,691	1,662	248	59	336
Iraq	475	2,982	2,184	710	313	250
Yemen	-	5	-	-	-	5
Not reported	-	64	64	-	-	-

- Represents zero.

**TABLE 24. REFUGEE APPROVALS AND ARRIVALS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF CHARGEABILITY
FISCAL YEARS 1991-98**

Geographic area of chargeability	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Authorized admissions	116,000	123,500	116,000	117,500	111,000	90,000	78,000	83,000
Africa	4,900	6,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
East Asia	38,500	33,500	36,000	41,500	39,000	25,000	10,000	14,000
Eastern Europe & Soviet Union (fmr.)	53,500	64,000	51,500	55,000	48,000	45,000	48,000	51,000
Latin America & Caribbean	3,100	3,000	3,500	4,000	8,000	6,000	4,000	4,000
Near East	6,000	6,000	7,000	6,000	5,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Unallocated Reserve	10,000	11,000	11,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	5,000	3,000
Approvals	107,962	115,330	106,026	105,137	78,936	74,491	77,600	73,198
Africa	4,430	5,667	6,813	5,748	4,895	9,681	7,854	8,443
East Asia	33,560	31,751	38,314	40,639	23,023	11,891	6,810	12,881
Eastern Europe & Soviet Union (fmr.)	62,582	68,131	52,090	48,963	45,900	47,611	56,379	46,671
Latin America & Caribbean	2,263	4,121	3,991	2,513	1,933	982	1,860	1,208
Near East	5,127	5,660	4,818	7,229	3,068	4,246	4,539	3,931
Not reported	-	-	-	45	117	80	158	64
Arrivals ¹	96,587	114,498	107,926	109,593	98,520	74,791	69,276	76,181
Africa	4,424	5,491	6,969	5,856	4,779	7,502	6,069	6,662
East Asia	37,262	34,202	38,302	40,601	35,956	18,343	7,781	10,475
Eastern Europe & Soviet Union (fmr.)	45,516	64,184	51,278	50,838	45,703	41,617	48,450	54,260
Latin America & Caribbean	4,026	3,777	4,377	6,437	7,618	3,541	2,986	1,587
Near East	5,359	6,844	7,000	5,861	4,464	3,788	3,990	3,197

¹ In editions of the *Statistical Yearbook* prior to 1996, refugee arrival data were derived from the Nonimmigrant Information System of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. However, beginning with the 1996 edition, arrival data are from the Bureau for Refugee Programs, Department of State. Any comparison of refugee arrival data between this and any pre-1996 editions of the *Yearbook* must be made with caution (see Refugees section, Data Overview and Data Collection). Arrivals may be higher than approvals because of the arrival of persons approved in previous years.

NOTE: The authorized admission levels for 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1995 were 125,000, 131,000, 142,000, 132,000, 121,000, and 112,000, respectively, including 15,000 Amerasians in both 1990 and 1991, 18,500 in 1992, 16,000 in 1993, 3,500 in 1994, and 1,000 in 1995. Since Amerasians enter the United States on immigrant visas, they are not included as refugee admissions. As a result, the authorized admission levels for 1990 through 1995 for East Asia have been reduced accordingly. Beginning in fiscal year 1996, there is no specific allocation for Amerasians in authorized admissions.

- Represents zero.

**TABLE 25. REFUGEE ARRIVALS INTO THE UNITED STATES
BY SELECTED COUNTRY OF CHARGEABILITY
FISCAL YEARS 1992-98**

Country of chargeability	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
All countries	114,498	107,926	109,593	98,520	74,791	69,276	76,181
Afghanistan	1,452	1,233	21	4	-	-	88
Albania	1,108	458	171	51	23	9	3
Bulgaria	126	34	5	3	-	-	-
Cambodia	141	22	6	1	-	-	-
China, People's Republic	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Congo, Democratic Republic ¹	76	199	92	85	38	45	52
Cuba	3,720	3,065	2,670	6,133	3,498	2,911	1,587
Czechoslovakia, former	18	3	5	-	1	-	-
El Salvador	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	²	²	6	-	14	7	9
Ethiopia ²	2,972	2,765	328	239	194	197	152
Ghana	-	2	5	9	1	4	-
Haiti	54	1,307	3,766	1,485	39	75	-
Hungary	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Iran	1,949	1,161	851	978	1,256	1,305	1,699
Iraq	3,442	4,605	4,984	3,482	2,528	2,679	1,407
Laos	7,315	6,967	6,272	3,675	2,201	939	-
Liberia	637	961	610	52	46	231	1,494
Nicaragua	1	1	1	-	2	-	-
Poland	134	54	31	39	11	6	2
Romania	1,499	215	67	24	16	3	-
Somalia	1,570	2,753	3,555	2,506	6,436	4,974	2,951
South Africa	15	8	-	-	1	1	-
Soviet Union, former	61,298	48,627	43,470	35,716	29,536	27,072	23,349
Sudan	113	244	1,220	1,705	575	277	1,252
Uganda	93	24	2	10	10	9	2
Vietnam	26,690	31,219	34,248	32,244	16,130	6,660	10,288
Yugoslavia, former ³	-	1,887	7,088	9,870	12,030	21,360	30,906
Bosnia-Herzegovina	³	1,887	7,088	9,870	12,030	21,357	30,906
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Other	71	111	118	209	204	512	940

¹ In May 1997 Zaire was formally recognized as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. ² Data for Eritrea are not available separately from Ethiopia prior to fiscal year 1994; beginning in 1994, data for Ethiopia exclude Eritrea (see Notice page). ³ Data for Bosnia-Herzegovina are not available separately from Yugoslavia prior to fiscal year 1993. Yugoslavia was officially dissolved as an independent republic in 1992 (see Notice page).

NOTE: In editions of the *Statistical Yearbook* prior to 1996, refugee arrival data were derived from the Nonimmigrant Information System of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. However, beginning with the 1996 edition, arrival data are from the Bureau for Refugee Programs, Department of State. Any comparison of refugee arrival data between this and any pre-1996 editions of the *Yearbook* must be made with caution (see Refugees section, Data Overview and Data Collection). Arrivals may be higher than approvals because of the arrival of persons approved in previous years.

- Represents zero.

**TABLE 26. REFUGEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS IN FISCAL YEAR 1998
BY CALENDAR YEAR OF ENTRY AND REGION AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH**

Region and country of birth	Total	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	Before 1991	Unknown or not reported
All countries	44,645	351	12,223	10,206	2,115	699	220	128	450	18,253
Europe	17,488	171	5,118	2,671	467	197	53	27	59	8,725
Germany	50	-	18	3	-	-	-	-	1	28
Latvia	61	1	24	8	-	1	-	-	-	27
Poland	48	-	4	6	2	5	-	2	12	17
Romania	26	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	7	13
Soviet Union, former	12,663	139	3,478	2,073	412	184	50	23	31	6,273
Armenia	82	4	42	7	1	-	-	-	1	27
Azerbaijan	178	1	74	17	7	8	-	-	-	71
Belarus	540	15	173	57	9	-	2	-	1	283
Georgia	60	2	32	6	1	2	-	-	-	17
Kazakhstan	140	-	29	13	-	-	-	-	-	98
Kyrgyzstan	46	-	12	12	2	-	-	-	-	20
Moldova	264	1	49	18	4	1	1	1	-	189
Russia	2,075	26	579	201	44	12	11	5	2	1,195
Tajikistan	23	-	9	3	-	-	-	-	-	11
Turkmenistan	7	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Ukraine	3,528	43	831	423	114	27	10	6	9	2,065
Uzbekistan	279	-	80	32	5	2	-	-	-	160
Unknown republic	5,441	47	1,567	1,284	224	132	26	11	18	2,132
Spain	31	-	6	4	5	1	-	-	2	13
Yugoslavia, former	4,504	31	1,558	569	40	1	-	1	3	2,301
Bosnia-Herzegovina	3,985	31	1,392	474	27	1	-	1	3	2,056
Croatia	167	-	60	18	-	-	-	-	-	89
Macedonia	9	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	5
Slovenia	14	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Unknown	329	-	100	74	12	-	-	-	-	143
Other Europe	105	-	26	8	6	5	3	1	3	53
Asia	8,895	69	2,250	1,139	694	253	59	53	119	4,259
Cambodia	42	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	20	14
Iran	596	19	274	30	19	4	-	1	6	243
Iraq	944	2	380	106	15	7	-	-	1	433
Laos	1,088	1	64	105	292	113	22	24	43	424
Saudi Arabia	70	-	17	8	-	-	-	-	-	45
Thailand	1,132	-	68	97	321	112	29	17	28	460
Vietnam	4,921	47	1,413	785	46	17	7	9	13	2,584
Other Asia	102	-	29	5	1	-	1	2	8	56
Africa	2,915	34	1,223	216	46	68	40	3	4	1,281
Congo, Democratic Republic ...	26	-	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	9
Ethiopia	114	2	35	19	2	3	6	2	2	43
Kenya	229	-	96	15	1	2	-	-	2	113
Liberia	44	3	10	3	2	4	4	-	-	18
Somalia	2,182	21	986	86	25	59	30	1	-	974
Sudan	186	5	44	70	8	-	-	-	-	59
Other Africa	134	3	42	16	8	-	-	-	-	65
North America	14,933	60	3,524	6,148	894	178	65	45	263	3,756
Canada	5	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Mexico	25	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	20
Caribbean	14,783	56	3,497	6,140	882	178	65	45	259	3,661
Cuba	14,688	56	3,494	6,133	843	178	65	45	259	3,615
Haiti	72	-	-	3	38	-	-	-	-	31
Other Caribbean	23	-	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	15
Central America	118	4	23	5	9	-	-	-	4	73
Other North America	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South America	364	17	100	24	13	3	3	-	2	202
Venezuela	113	5	30	13	4	-	-	-	1	60
Other South America	251	12	70	11	9	3	3	-	1	142
Unknown	50	-	8	8	1	-	-	-	3	30

- Represents zero.

**TABLE 27. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND ASYLUM OFFICERS
FISCAL YEARS 1973-98**

Year	Cases received ¹	Cases completed ²	Cases approved	Cases denied	Cases adjudicated ³	Percent approved ⁴
1973-98	1,367,010	1,024,379	120,689	239,832	512,111	23.6
1973.....	1,913	1,510	380	1,130	1,510	25.2
1974	2,716	2,769	294	2,475	2,769	10.6
1975	2,432	1,664	562	1,102	1,664	33.8
1976-80	42,173	10,847	4,990	5,857	10,847	46.0
1976	2,733	1,914	590	1,324	1,914	30.8
1976, TQ ⁵	896	370	97	273	370	26.2
1977	2,529	1,939	754	1,185	1,939	38.9
1978	3,702	2,312	1,218	1,094	2,312	52.7
1979	5,801	2,312	1,227	1,085	2,312	53.1
1980	26,512	2,000	1,104	896	2,000	55.2
1981-85	161,872	124,142	25,162	73,928	99,090	25.4
1981	61,568	4,521	1,175	3,346	4,521	26.0
1982	33,296	11,326	3,909	7,255	11,164	35.0
1983	26,091	25,447	7,215	16,811	24,026	30.0
1984	24,295	54,320	8,278	32,344	40,622	20.4
1985	16,622	28,528	4,585	14,172	18,757	24.4
1986-90	281,048	310,071	24,067	75,621	99,688	24.1
1986	18,889	45,792	3,359	7,882	11,241	29.9
1987	26,107	44,785	4,062	3,454	7,516	54.0
1988	60,736	68,357	5,531	8,582	14,113	39.2
1989	101,679	102,795	6,942	31,547	38,489	18.0
1990	73,637	48,342	4,173	24,156	28,329	14.7
1991-95	605,372	234,217	31,624	71,635	138,891	22.8
1991	56,310	16,552	2,108	4,167	6,275	33.6
1992	103,964	21,996	3,919	6,506	10,425	37.6
1993	144,166	34,228	5,012	17,979	22,991	21.8
1994	146,468	53,399	8,131	28,892	37,023	22.0
1995	154,464	108,042	12,454	14,091	62,177	20.0
1996	128,190	123,706	13,532	2,504	61,983	21.8
1997	85,866	129,716	10,129	2,434	52,931	19.1
1998	55,428	85,737	9,949	3,146	42,738	23.3

¹ Beginning in 1992, includes cases newly filed and cases reopened. ² Includes approvals, denials, and cases otherwise closed. Beginning in 1995, also includes cases referred to an immigration judge (interviewed and not interviewed). Cases otherwise closed are those in which the applicant withdrew the case from consideration, never acknowledged the request for an interview with the INS, or died. ³ Includes approvals and denials. Beginning in 1995, includes cases referred to an immigration judge following an interview. ⁴ Cases approved divided by cases adjudicated. ⁵ The three-month period—July 1 through September 30, 1976—between fiscal year 1976 and fiscal year 1977. At that time, the fiscal year definition was changed from July 1-June 30 to October 1-September 30.

NOTE: The Refugee Act of 1980 went into effect April 1, 1980. Data for fiscal years 1982 and 1983 have been estimated due to changes in the reporting procedures during those two periods. Since April 1, 1991, authority to decide most asylum claims has resided with the INS Asylum Officer Corps. See Glossary for fiscal year definitions.

**TABLE 28. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS GRANTED ASYLUM BY INS DISTRICT DIRECTORS
AND ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEARS 1992-98**

Nationality	1992 ¹	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
All nationalities	3,959	7,464	11,764	17,493	18,556	15,896	12,951
Afghanistan	90	70	159	335	216	262	283
Albania	23	30	47	147	433	378	539
Bangladesh	2	33	87	349	247	118	101
Bulgaria	44	75	40	59	45	64	74
Burma	22	42	87	215	151	176	271
Burundi	-	-	19	98	91	58	44
Cameroon	19	26	74	160	95	77	154
China, People's Republic	277	336	414	535	433	497	668
Colombia	16	36	69	104	92	48	107
Congo, Democratic Republic ²	22	45	93	214	137	141	205
Cuba	214	319	494	524	634	312	196
Czechoslovakia, former	-	2	2	6	1	5	4
Czech Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slovak Republic	-	-	-	4	-	2	3
Unknown republic	-	2	2	2	1	3	1
Egypt	11	28	54	196	136	126	355
El Salvador	110	74	187	237	195	172	385
Eritrea	7	2	2	2	-	4	101
Estonia	-	-	5	12	34	44	7
Ethiopia	347	352	667	1,096	818	444	543
Fiji	18	70	29	51	35	8	2
Guatemala	94	172	373	1,065	889	344	472
Haiti	120	636	1,060	749	1,491	694	389
Honduras	19	32	92	194	140	52	49
Hungary	1	2	13	27	13	4	2
India	78	357	584	1,108	1,709	886	396
Iran	231	347	638	785	607	408	708
Iraq	70	101	214	204	918	5,540	176
Jordan	31	35	38	55	20	19	23
Laos	56	79	85	33	17	15	15
Latvia	5	5	15	7	18	7	3
Lebanon	81	65	91	91	76	37	62
Liberia	209	247	305	615	694	471	491
Libya	14	22	20	20	6	7	10
Lithuania	1	5	5	6	-	-	3
Mauritania	1	10	17	275	407	101	141
Mexico	-	-	9	83	43	34	40
Nicaragua	341	291	520	484	418	129	147
Pakistan	83	176	219	512	442	264	275
Panama	3	6	1	2	7	1	1
Peru	113	241	470	688	464	243	224
Philippines	16	58	76	54	37	15	19
Poland	2	58	3	10	13	1	6
Romania	156	258	184	181	80	55	44
Rwanda	-	13	43	148	69	101	81
Sierra Leone	2	22	48	71	59	25	157
Somalia	122	121	150	286	529	708	1,308
Soviet Union, former ³	442	923	1,175	1,556	1,440	1,108	1,317
Armenia	2	28	75	409	334	241	312
Azerbaijan	1	4	25	78	127	80	160
Belarus	-	1	2	14	10	19	26
Georgia	-	5	36	81	70	60	67
Kazakhstan	-	3	1	17	15	17	27

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 28. NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS GRANTED ASYLUM BY INS DISTRICT DIRECTORS
AND ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEARS 1992-98—Continued**

Nationality	1992 ¹	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	6	5	12	4
Moldova	-	3	8	15	12	6	3
Russia	51	233	565	578	477	371	433
Tajikistan	-	1	7	10	11	6	15
Turkmenistan	-	-	1	-	3	17	12
Ukraine	7	54	191	218	215	190	142
Uzbekistan	-	3	22	62	43	39	53
Unknown republic	381	588	242	68	118	50	63
Sri Lanka	44	16	62	69	32	45	53
Sudan	73	133	248	397	343	266	400
Syria	16	638	1,032	680	304	35	44
Yugoslavia, former ⁴	72	521	906	1,414	2,470	629	527
Bosnia-Herzegovina	⁴	15	164	289	192	40	20
Croatia	⁴	9	52	59	62	47	38
Macedonia	⁴	-	-	11	10	33	22
Slovenia	⁴	1	6	-	1	-	-
Unknown	72	496	684	1,055	2,205	509	447
Other	241	334	539	1,284	1,008	718	1,329

¹ The 3,959 individuals known to have been granted asylum were in the 2,740 cases in the data system. An additional 1,179 cases were granted asylum, but the number of individuals covered and their nationalities are unknown. ² In May 1997 Zaire was formally recognized as the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

³ Beginning in 1992, some claims filed by persons from the former Soviet Union were recoded under the separate former Soviet republics. ⁴ Data for the independent states of the former Yugoslavia are not available separately from Yugoslavia prior to fiscal year 1993. Yugoslavia was officially dissolved as an independent republic in 1992 (see Notice page).

- Represents zero. X Not applicable.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998**

Nationality	Cases pending beginning of year ¹	Cases filed during year	Cases reopened during year	Cases granted during year	Percent approved ²	Individuals granted asylum during year
All nationalities	397,809	35,903	19,525	9,949	23	12,951
Afghanistan	406	166	47	172	73	284
Albania	563	852	59	375	35	539
Algeria	233	265	31	138	61	184
Angola	15	15	1	6	60	12
Antigua-Barbuda	11	1	1	-	-	-
Argentina	29	9	3	-	-	-
Australia	4	6	-	-	-	-
Austria	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bahamas, The	10	8	1	1	14	1
Bahrain	2	2	-	1	100	1
Bangladesh	2,410	232	682	74	10	101
Barbados	16	1	5	1	33	1
Belgium	3	3	-	2	67	2
Belize	10	6	4	-	-	-
Benin	9	7	6	-	-	-
Bhutan	1	2	-	-	-	-
Bolivia	149	10	13	-	-	-
Brazil	1,015	71	60	26	27	27
Brunei	1	-	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	696	108	66	52	29	74
Burkina Faso	28	7	1	1	11	1
Burma	257	359	36	233	66	271
Burundi	84	83	10	35	39	44
Cambodia	107	425	8	103	40	122
Cameroon	272	233	33	134	53	154
Canada	7	7	2	-	-	-
Cape Verde	46	2	1	-	-	-
Central African Rep. ..	4	5	-	3	50	3
Chad	4	27	2	12	60	13
Chile	84	15	14	4	25	4
China, People's Rep. ..	6,647	3,075	2,675	508	14	668
Colombia	1,337	205	166	64	19	107
Comoros	1	-	-	-	-	-
Congo, Democratic Republic	239	300	24	181	56	205
Congo, Republic	43	262	8	84	44	110
Costa Rica	48	7	5	-	-	-
Cote d'Ivoire	229	22	68	9	14	12
Cuba	3,880	303	91	155	64	196
Cyprus	-	2	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia, fmr. Czech Republic	176	17	23	4	27	4
Slovak Republic	1	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown republic	27	7	10	3	19	3
Denmark	148	10	13	1	8	1
Djibouti	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominica	17	2	4	-	-	-
Dominican Republic ...	70	5	7	1	14	2
Ecuador	735	42	233	2	2	2
Egypt	445	479	65	216	44	355
El Salvador	185,004	3,847	2,498	294	7	385
Equatorial Guinea	2	-	-	1	100	2
Eritrea	90	159	2	95	55	101
Estonia	34	7	3	4	33	7
Ethiopia	1,700	720	84	489	53	543
Fiji	788	51	6	1	2	2
Finland	1	-	-	-	-	-
France	10	13	7	-	-	-
Gabon	7	5	2	1	25	1
Gambia, The	278	71	68	34	30	43

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Nationality	Cases pending beginning of year ¹	Cases filed during year	Cases reopened during year	Cases granted during year	Percent approved ²	Individuals granted asylum during year
Germany	16	13	2	1	11	1
Ghana	752	31	131	13	12	16
Greece	9	3	2	-	-	1
Grenada	11	-	3	-	-	-
Guatemala	110,796	2,666	3,230	355	9	472
Guinea	202	131	44	43	26	53
Guinea-Bissau	59	-	3	-	-	-
Guyana	419	6	105	1	3	2
Haiti	15,243	2,720	690	336	13	389
Honduras	2,538	284	525	35	5	49
Hong Kong	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hungary	194	6	20	1	5	2
India	5,321	1,779	893	352	14	396
Indonesia	57	168	25	8	21	15
Iran	1,220	749	110	496	61	708
Iraq	236	179	29	114	50	176
Ireland	3	6	-	-	-	-
Israel	275	19	42	1	3	1
Italy	6	4	1	-	-	-
Jamaica	393	33	63	4	14	6
Japan	4	13	-	-	-	-
Jordan	367	61	43	17	16	23
Kenya	100	148	9	52	48	68
Korea	70	7	4	2	33	2
Kuwait	111	27	9	12	52	13
Laos	1,199	17	17	11	18	15
Latvia	41	24	8	1	4	3
Lebanon	632	65	73	34	30	62
Lesotho	1	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	2,453	587	183	405	47	491
Libya	23	16	1	10	63	10
Lithuania	69	17	6	2	10	3
Madagascar	1	-	2	-	-	-
Malawi	8	3	-	1	20	2
Malaysia	40	22	14	5	25	5
Maldives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	242	9	62	1	2	2
Mauritania	432	785	39	140	17	141
Mauritius	15	2	2	3	100	3
Mexico	5,326	4,474	2,203	24	1	40
Mongolia	1	1	-	-	-	-
Morocco	50	5	7	4	44	5
Mozambique	5	-	-	-	-	-
Namibia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	73	95	41	15	17	17
Netherlands	2	2	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	4	2	-	-	-	-
Nicaragua	16,492	361	458	102	17	147
Niger	300	134	30	74	61	109
Nigeria	1,191	299	163	103	23	146
Norway	-	1	-	-	-	-
Oman	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pakistan	3,100	373	663	190	24	275
Palau	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palestine	103	-	8	1	100	1
Panama	257	8	5	-	-	1
Paraguay	11	1	-	-	-	-
Peru	2,309	386	276	139	16	224
Philippines	2,327	104	209	13	5	19
Poland	830	24	135	5	9	6
Portugal	26	1	9	-	-	-
Qatar	2	-	-	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Nationality	Cases pending beginning of year ¹	Cases filed during year	Cases reopened during year	Cases granted during year	Percent approved ²	Individuals granted asylum during year
Romania	1,846	54	145	32	15	44
Rwanda	78	108	6	69	63	81
Samoa	-	2	-	-	-	-
San Marino	-	1	-	1	100	2
Sao Tome & Principe	1	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	22	12	2	6	50	7
Senegal	251	35	48	8	14	9
Seychelles	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone	281	278	33	110	39	157
Singapore	4	5	-	5	83	5
Somalia	1,104	2,305	56	1,208	68	1,308
South Africa	93	16	5	-	-	-
Soviet Union, former ⁴	5,207	1,845	842	864	484	1,317
Armenia	360	453	90	221	45	312
Azerbaijan	103	153	16	94	57	160
Belarus	44	59	9	25	33	26
Georgia	117	105	17	46	37	67
Kazakhstan	29	36	7	13	36	27
Kyrgyzstan	4	15	-	3	23	4
Moldova	24	11	9	3	12	3
Russia	1,888	622	324	290	32	433
Tajikistan	11	19	-	12	63	15
Turkmenistan	12	13	1	6	29	12
Ukraine	686	304	129	108	23	142
Uzbekistan	68	53	18	38	43	53
Unknown republic	1,861	2	222	5	50	63
Spain	9	4	1	1	25	1
Sri Lanka	190	81	30	35	34	53
St. Kitts-Nevis	4	-	-	-	-	-
St. Lucia	43	-	3	-	-	-
St. Vincent & Grenadines	9	1	-	-	-	-
Sudan	424	409	45	318	67	400
Suriname	216	7	28	5	8	15
Sweden	2	5	1	-	-	-
Switzerland	-	2	-	-	-	-
Syria	224	60	25	27	42	44
Taiwan	18	17	4	-	-	-
Tanzania	13	7	4	4	50	9
Thailand	128	3	26	2	20	4
Togo	111	72	15	44	51	50
Tonga	1	1	-	-	-	-
Trinidad & Tobago	409	10	77	1	3	1
Tunisia	-	5	1	1	50	2
Turkey	256	32	57	16	36	20
Uganda	132	154	12	64	46	71
United Arab Emirates	3	5	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	25	19	4	4	36	5
Uruguay	31	2	4	1	14	1
Venezuela	68	33	16	10	26	14
Vietnam	49	24	4	7	27	10
Yemen	328	60	47	23	23	31
Yugoslavia, former	1,557	596	198	397	177	527
Bosnia-Herzegovina	59	19	9	18	58	20
Croatia	134	28	18	28	44	38
Macedonia	48	43	10	18	22	22
Slovenia	6	2	3	-	-	-
Unknown	1,310	504	158	333	53	447
Zambia	4	4	2	2	40	2
Zimbabwe	10	6	-	-	-	-
Stateless	399	116	55	42	26	48
Unknown	33	115	6	-	-	10

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Nationality	Cases denied during year	Individuals denied asylum during year	Cases otherwise closed during year ³	Cases to immigration judge, not interviewed	Cases to immigration judge, interviewed	Cases pending end of year
All nationalities	3,146	4,014	35,121	7,878	29,643	360,247
Afghanistan	10	12	96	8	54	259
Albania	38	66	39	33	654	297
Algeria	8	16	45	13	79	233
Angola	-	-	3	1	4	16
Antigua-Barbuda	-	-	7	1	1	4
Argentina	-	-	11	4	14	10
Australia	-	-	3	-	5	2
Austria	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bahamas, The	-	-	3	-	6	8
Bahrain	-	-	1	-	-	2
Bangladesh	78	83	1,582	44	590	661
Barbados	-	-	14	1	2	2
Belgium	-	-	1	-	1	2
Belize	-	-	7	2	5	3
Benin	-	-	3	2	10	7
Bhutan	-	-	-	-	1	2
Bolivia	-	-	41	5	18	104
Brazil	1	1	190	21	69	816
Brunei	-	-	1	-	-	-
Bulgaria	10	17	159	11	117	488
Burkina Faso	-	-	10	3	8	13
Burma	19	21	24	9	100	245
Burundi	4	8	11	27	51	39
Cambodia	22	29	6	6	132	264
Cameroon	16	16	32	12	102	223
Canada	1	1	1	-	6	8
Cape Verde	-	-	6	1	-	42
Central African Rep. ..	-	-	1	-	3	2
Chad	-	-	-	-	8	11
Chile	-	-	35	6	12	48
China, People's Rep. ..	328	399	3,016	288	2,938	4,833
Colombia	13	27	498	48	265	733
Comoros	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congo, Democratic Republic	12	16	18	13	130	194
Congo, Republic	9	12	4	9	98	103
Costa Rica	-	-	18	7	5	29
Cote d'Ivoire	1	1	109	11	53	123
Cuba	5	5	338	29	84	3,631
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	1	1
Czechoslovakia, fmr. Czech Republic	1	1	82	2	25	98
Slovak Republic	-	-	-	-	1	-
Unknown republic	1	1	13	1	12	14
Denmark	-	-	69	1	12	84
Djibouti	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominica	-	-	8	3	1	10
Dominican Republic ...	-	-	28	2	6	42
Ecuador	8	8	483	75	77	314
Egypt	28	51	127	13	249	329
El Salvador	775	908	3,382	1,619	3,313	180,991
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eritrea	9	10	-	2	68	76
Estonia	-	-	9	-	8	20
Ethiopia	44	53	125	32	387	1,388
Fiji	4	11	26	3	61	748
Finland	-	-	1	-	-	-
France	1	1	6	5	12	4
Gabon	-	-	1	-	3	8
Gambia, The	9	13	108	24	70	165

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Nationality	Cases denied during year	Individuals denied asylum during year	Cases otherwise closed during year ³	Cases to immigration judge, not interviewed	Cases to immigration judge, interviewed	Cases pending end of year
Germany	-	-	6	1	8	13
Ghana	12	13	378	17	88	375
Greece	-	-	4	2	2	5
Grenada	-	-	8	-	1	4
Guatemala	442	511	5,659	793	3,288	105,207
Guinea	5	5	48	16	118	129
Guinea-Bissau	-	-	31	-	2	26
Guyana	-	-	350	3	39	115
Haiti	35	42	528	350	2,282	14,876
Honduras	34	41	891	137	590	1,521
Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hungary	3	3	70	2	18	115
India	107	124	1,664	390	1,988	3,239
Indonesia	5	9	37	4	26	168
Iran	38	44	202	67	285	917
Iraq	10	22	31	15	105	149
Ireland	-	-	-	-	1	8
Israel	1	1	187	4	34	93
Italy	-	-	5	-	5	1
Jamaica	6	10	274	8	45	132
Japan	4	4	-	4	8	1
Jordan	6	13	129	7	85	208
Kenya	5	9	16	10	51	118
Korea	1	1	41	15	3	17
Kuwait	3	4	34	-	8	83
Laos	3	3	53	2	49	1,107
Latvia	1	1	14	1	26	29
Lebanon	16	26	218	12	62	395
Lesotho	-	-	-	-	-	1
Liberia	92	125	812	30	366	1,447
Libya	2	2	2	-	4	21
Lithuania	-	-	18	4	19	46
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	1	2
Malawi	-	-	1	1	4	4
Malaysia	-	-	25	3	15	23
Maldives	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	1	1	132	4	48	113
Mauritania	12	12	57	76	675	271
Mauritius	-	-	6	-	-	9
Mexico	15	31	2,626	2,800	3,630	1,359
Mongolia	-	-	-	-	2	-
Morocco	1	1	28	-	4	23
Mozambique	-	-	2	-	-	3
Namibia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	4	6	48	5	72	58
Netherlands	-	-	2	-	2	-
New Zealand	-	-	4	-	2	-
Nicaragua	324	443	1,422	22	164	15,134
Niger	5	10	123	1	42	210
Nigeria	22	33	488	30	317	626
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	1
Oman	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pakistan	142	157	1,853	57	464	1,229
Palau	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palestine	-	-	39	1	-	65
Panama	-	-	24	1	11	232
Paraguay	-	-	6	-	-	6
Peru	23	57	575	54	734	1,320
Philippines	12	21	588	106	229	1,635
Poland	13	14	460	4	39	435
Portugal	1	1	18	2	6	9
Qatar	-	-	-	-	-	2

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 29. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY SELECTED NATIONALITY
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Nationality	Cases denied during year	Individuals denied asylum during year	Cases otherwise closed during year ³	Cases to immigration judge, not interviewed	Cases to immigration judge, interviewed	Cases pending end of year
Romania	26	31	489	11	155	1,272
Rwanda	6	6	7	11	34	60
Samoa	-	-	-	-	2	-
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome & Principe	-	-	-	-	-	1
Saudi Arabia	2	2	6	-	4	17
Senegal	4	4	110	19	47	134
Seychelles	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sierra Leone	20	25	47	12	153	234
Singapore	-	-	3	-	1	-
Somalia	1	1	33	108	577	1,492
South Africa	1	1	19	1	12	79
Soviet Union, former ⁴	106	179	1,592	136	1,460	3,336
Armenia	26	44	57	30	244	275
Azerbaijan	3	7	13	10	67	78
Belarus	3	4	4	-	47	33
Georgia	3	7	15	7	76	83
Kazakhstan	2	3	3	4	21	25
Kyrgyzstan	1	1	-	-	9	6
Moldova	1	1	4	-	21	12
Russia	43	73	496	55	567	1,259
Tajikistan	-	1	2	-	7	9
Turkmenistan	4	8	-	1	11	4
Ukraine	18	23	145	26	336	439
Uzbekistan	2	5	13	3	49	26
Unknown republic	-	2	840	-	5	1,087
Spain	1	2	3	-	2	7
Sri Lanka	5	9	68	11	63	107
St. Kitts-Nevis	-	-	1	-	1	2
St. Lucia	-	-	35	-	1	9
St. Vincent & Grenadines	-	-	5	1	2	2
Sudan	32	48	55	19	124	304
Suriname	3	3	102	4	53	73
Sweden	-	-	-	-	5	2
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	2
Syria	4	10	113	7	33	118
Taiwan	4	4	8	8	7	11
Tanzania	-	3	7	-	4	7
Thailand	-	-	50	3	8	90
Togo	6	7	25	3	36	77
Tonga	-	-	1	-	1	-
Trinidad & Tobago	2	2	307	11	29	123
Tunisia	1	2	1	-	-	3
Turkey	4	4	177	-	24	109
Uganda	-	-	25	2	76	126
United Arab Emirates	-	-	1	-	5	2
United Kingdom	1	3	6	8	6	21
Uruguay	-	-	8	2	6	18
Venezuela	-	-	21	5	29	43
Vietnam	2	4	5	1	17	44
Yemen	7	8	157	7	70	154
Yugoslavia, former	39	57	465	25	376	976
Bosnia-Herzegovina	2	2	11	2	11	42
Croatia	7	9	38	4	28	72
Macedonia	2	3	2	1	61	12
Slovenia	-	-	4	-	4	2
Unknown	28	43	410	18	272	848
Zambia	1	4	2	-	2	2
Zimbabwe	-	-	1	2	2	11
Stateless	8	9	205	5	110	177
Unknown	-	-	4	-	133	12

¹ The total number of cases pending at the beginning of fiscal year 1998 is lower than the 399,826 reported at the end of fiscal year 1997 because of corrections to the data base. ² The number of cases granted divided by the sum of: cases granted; denied; and referred to an immigration judge following an interview. See Asylum section of text. ³ Include ABC interview no show cases. ⁴ Some pending cases filed by persons from the former Soviet Union were recoded under the separate former Soviet republics.
- Represents zero.

**TABLE 30. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY
ASYLUM OFFICE AND STATE OF RESIDENCE
FISCAL YEAR 1998**

Asylum office and state of residence	Cases pending beginning of year ¹	Cases filed during year	Cases reopened during year	Cases granted during year	Percent approved ²	Individuals granted asylum during year
Total	397,809	35,903	19,525	9,949	23	12,951
Asylum office:						
Arlington	45,891	3,468	1,073	1,368	36	1,645
Chicago	12,832	2,336	788	599	26	859
Houston	21,665	1,953	420	535	26	702
Los Angeles	152,653	10,084	5,217	2,494	27	3,210
Miami	52,016	4,377	1,862	730	13	995
Newark	39,840	3,392	4,856	1,023	17	1,381
New York	38,367	5,051	4,827	2,053	25	2,751
San Francisco	34,545	5,242	482	1,147	22	1,408
State:						
Alabama	931	46	46	11	24	13
Alaska	344	12	10	4	40	5
Arizona	1,750	297	88	63	20	89
Arkansas	1,082	48	44	5	7	6
California	174,824	13,631	5,329	3,213	24	4,099
Colorado	1,573	207	64	92	40	107
Connecticut	1,346	209	155	87	26	109
Delaware	1,044	29	286	28	15	39
District of Columbia ...	6,230	284	62	138	47	141
Florida	51,299	4,209	1,847	736	13	1,011
Georgia	6,758	680	297	139	22	164
Hawaii	238	24	4	2	17	2
Idaho	195	27	7	1	6	6
Illinois	2,168	512	244	199	30	273
Indiana	473	95	45	32	25	34
Iowa	1,040	93	31	12	32	16
Kansas	1,249	76	43	9	12	13
Kentucky	508	107	28	6	11	9
Louisiana	219	52	9	14	29	22
Maine	160	21	8	1	20	2
Maryland	12,348	1,079	256	481	42	576
Massachusetts	12,207	669	269	181	28	241
Michigan	1,337	325	186	136	26	232
Minnesota	1,696	530	66	199	46	235
Mississippi	65	14	4	4	21	4
Missouri	577	59	29	22	34	44
Montana	10	5	-	2	100	2
Nebraska	2,518	184	60	7	19	10
Nevada	3,111	214	150	42	18	60
New Hampshire	130	15	8	10	56	11
New Jersey	11,394	743	1,213	308	20	435
New Mexico	111	22	3	5	39	10
New York	47,216	6,210	7,455	2,254	21	2,997
North Carolina	3,023	288	158	68	19	86
North Dakota	4	3	1	2	100	6
Ohio	1,404	406	60	89	26	112
Oklahoma	300	55	10	19	30	34
Oregon	2,944	133	28	47	60	55
Pennsylvania	1,664	352	200	156	29	206
Rhode Island	3,118	165	42	18	14	25
South Carolina	347	44	16	10	21	15
South Dakota	178	16	4	3	38	8
Tennessee	868	364	56	130	30	155
Texas	17,158	1,180	229	249	21	349
Utah	660	46	18	14	26	15
Vermont	62	7	2	1	33	1
Virginia	16,682	1,048	265	509	40	624
Washington	2,608	509	49	127	62	159
West Virginia	31	4	4	1	11	5
Wisconsin	173	83	27	31	32	45
Wyoming	12	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	2	-	-	-	-	-
Guam	248	313	-	23	16	24
Puerto Rico	70	11	2	4	36	4
Virgin Islands	102	148	8	5	5	6

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 30. ASYLUM CASES FILED WITH INS ASYLUM OFFICERS BY
ASYLUM OFFICE AND STATE OF RESIDENCE
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued**

Asylum office and state of residence	Cases denied during year	Individuals denied asylum during year	Cases otherwise closed during year	Cases to immigration judge, not interviewed	Cases to immigration judge, interviewed	Cases pending end of year
Total	3,146	4,014	35,121	7,878	29,643	360,247
Asylum office:						
Arlington	141	206	1,403	995	2,284	43,880
Chicago	195	286	668	184	1,489	12,489
Houston	183	241	516	365	1,362	20,908
Los Angeles	1,267	1,612	7,013	3,463	5,592	145,560
Miami	223	315	5,601	698	4,792	45,269
Newark	294	350	8,343	995	4,796	31,751
New York	751	888	10,687	536	5,421	27,010
San Francisco	92	116	890	642	3,907	33,380
State:						
Alabama	3	3	23	25	32	918
Alaska	-	-	7	7	6	338
Arizona	13	18	115	57	244	1,591
Arkansas	6	7	27	14	61	1,053
California	1,302	1,657	7,550	3,957	8,774	166,372
Colorado	6	10	50	25	130	1,521
Connecticut	24	32	313	22	220	1,011
Delaware	28	30	252	12	134	833
District of Columbia ...	6	7	96	92	152	6,058
Florida	222	314	5,555	688	4,682	44,541
Georgia	13	20	153	339	493	6,529
Hawaii	2	2	3	1	8	249
Idaho	-	-	4	13	17	192
Illinois	69	95	149	40	404	1,946
Indiana	8	12	36	4	88	424
Iowa	2	3	12	2	23	1,105
Kansas	6	8	23	28	61	1,224
Kentucky	5	10	11	5	46	562
Louisiana	4	10	15	14	30	203
Maine	-	-	9	-	4	174
Maryland	58	95	384	155	602	11,893
Massachusetts	13	20	285	175	446	11,992
Michigan	53	82	313	35	345	864
Minnesota	20	24	51	20	217	1,767
Mississippi	3	3	6	-	12	58
Missouri	8	11	21	9	35	567
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	13
Nebraska	2	3	27	11	28	2,669
Nevada	23	28	127	34	169	3,023
New Hampshire	-	-	18	3	8	113
New Jersey	98	120	2,489	364	1,127	8,709
New Mexico	2	2	4	1	6	115
New York	838	978	14,957	880	7,766	31,996
North Carolina	17	26	344	151	275	2,567
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	6
Ohio	20	27	55	14	233	1,435
Oklahoma	5	5	22	5	39	270
Oregon	1	1	22	13	31	2,978
Pennsylvania	27	34	556	42	349	1,029
Rhode Island	4	8	58	40	105	3,088
South Carolina	6	8	6	13	31	339
South Dakota	1	1	5	1	4	184
Tennessee	11	22	103	27	289	705
Texas	148	187	293	284	807	16,678
Utah	4	9	19	1	36	644
Vermont	-	-	4	-	2	64
Virginia	42	50	482	215	716	15,941
Washington	10	10	26	9	67	2,914
West Virginia	1	1	4	2	7	22
Wisconsin	12	21	21	5	55	149
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	1	11
Unknown	-	-	1	-	-	1
Guam	-	-	6	8	124	400
Puerto Rico	-	-	4	3	7	64
Virgin Islands	-	-	5	13	95	135

¹ The total number of cases pending at the beginning of fiscal year 1998 is lower than the 399,826 reported at the end of fiscal year 1997 because of corrections to the data base. ² The number of cases granted divided by the sum of: cases granted; denied; and referred to an immigration judge following an interview. See Asylum section of text. - Represents zero.

**TABLE 31. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT
RESIDENT STATUS BY ENACTMENT
FISCAL YEARS 1946-98**

Enactment	Total	1946-50	1951-60	1961-70	1971-80	1981-90	1991-98
Total	3,384,108	213,347	492,371	212,843	539,447	1,013,620	912,480
Presidential Directive of 12/22/45	40,324	40,324	X	X	X	X	-
Displaced Persons Act of 6/25/48	409,696	173,023	236,669	4	X	X	-
Orphan Act of 7/29/53	466	X	466	X	X	X	-
Refugee Relief Act of 8/7/53	189,025	X	188,993	28	2	2	-
Refugee-Escapee Act of 9/11/57	29,471	X	24,263	5,199	X	X	9
Hungarian Refugee Act of 7/25/58	30,752	X	30,491	258	2	1	-
Azores & Netherlands Refugee Act of 7/25/58	22,213	X	10,057	12,156	X	X	-
Refugee Relatives Act of 9/22/59	1,820	X	1,432	388	X	X	-
Fair Share Refugee Act of 7/14/60	19,800	X	X	19,714	82	3	1
Refugee Conditional Entrants Act of 10/3/65	142,103	X	X	39,149	102,625	329	-
Cuban Refugee Act of 11/2/66	590,966	X	X	135,947	252,119	105,898	97,002
Indochinese Refugee Act of 10/28/77	175,166	X	X	X	137,309	37,752	105
Refugee Parolee Act of 10/5/78	139,290	X	X	X	46,058	92,971	261
Refugee Act of 1980, 3/17/80	1,593,016	X	X	X	1,250	776,664	815,102
Refugees	1,462,726	X	X	X	X	734,259	728,467
Asylees	130,290	X	X	X	1,250	42,405	86,635

NOTE: See Glossary for fiscal year definitions. Data for fiscal years 1987-88 have been adjusted. The data no longer include Cuban/Haitian entrants granted immigrant status.

- Represents zero. X Not applicable.

**TABLE 32. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
BY REGION AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH
FISCAL YEARS 1946-98**

Region and country of birth	Total	1946-50	1951-60	1961-70	1971-80 ¹	1981-90 ¹	1991-96	1997	1998
All countries	3,386,553	213,347	492,371	212,843	539,447	1,013,620	748,122	112,158	54,645
Europe	1,322,392	211,983	456,146	55,235	71,858	155,512	312,815	39,795	19,048
Albania	7,283	29	1,409	1,952	395	353	3,013	76	56
Austria	17,486	4,801	11,487	233	185	424	330	20	6
Bulgaria	7,132	139	1,138	1,799	1,238	1,197	1,519	69	33
Czechoslovakia, former	37,983	8,449	10,719	5,709	3,646	8,204	1,201	40	15
Estonia	12,042	7,143	4,103	16	2	25	646	89	18
Germany	101,911	36,633	62,860	665	143	851	625	79	55
Greece	31,525	124	28,568	586	478	1,408	342	11	8
Hungary	76,439	6,086	55,740	4,044	4,358	4,942	1,231	24	14
Italy	63,636	642	60,657	1,198	346	394	378	14	7
Latvia	40,815	21,422	16,783	49	16	48	2,156	272	69
Lithuania	28,468	18,694	8,569	72	23	37	961	85	27
Netherlands	17,646	129	14,336	3,134	8	14	17	3	5
Poland	210,227	78,529	81,323	3,197	5,882	33,889	7,210	143	54
Portugal	5,078	12	3,650	1,361	21	21	12	1	-
Romania	75,582	4,180	12,057	7,158	6,812	29,798	15,139	322	116
Soviet Union, former ..	456,884	14,072	30,059	871	31,309	72,306	264,187	30,880	13,200
Russia	46,455	X	X	X	X	X	44,367	6,985	2,225
Ukraine	83,694	X	X	X	X	X	81,263	12,137	3,641
Uzbekistan	16,265	X	X	X	X	X	14,638	2,885	292
Other republics	48,477	X	X	X	X	X	48,336	6,284	1,518
Unknown republic	261,993	14,072	30,059	871	31,309	72,306	75,583	2,589	5,524
Spain	10,791	1	246	4,114	5,317	736	317	29	31
Yugoslavia, former	110,671	9,816	44,755	18,299	11,297	324	13,271	7,597	5,312
Other Europe	10,793	1,082	7,687	778	382	541	260	41	22
Asia	1,305,901	1,106	33,422	19,895	210,683	712,092	286,125	30,835	11,743
Afghanistan	33,047	-	1	-	542	22,946	9,065	356	137
Cambodia	128,116	-	-	-	7,739	114,064	6,088	163	62
China ²	46,011	319	12,008	5,308	13,760	7,928	5,097	693	898
Hong Kong	9,147	-	1,076	2,128	3,468	1,916	535	19	5
Indonesia	17,704	-	8,253	7,658	222	1,385	174	8	4
Iran	69,832	118	192	58	364	46,773	20,126	1,447	754
Iraq	31,877	-	130	119	6,851	7,540	14,464	1,774	999
Japan	4,545	3	3,803	554	56	110	18	-	1
Korea	4,636	-	3,116	1,316	65	120	14	3	2
Laos	200,828	-	-	-	21,690	142,964	33,701	1,363	1,110
Syria	5,803	4	119	383	1,336	2,145	963	146	707
Thailand	53,097	-	15	13	1,241	30,259	19,323	1,112	1,134
Turkey	7,124	603	1,427	1,489	1,193	1,896	460	35	21
Vietnam	671,506	-	2	7	150,266	324,453	169,560	22,297	4,921
Other Asia	22,628	59	3,280	862	1,890	7,593	6,537	1,419	988
Africa	78,514	20	1,768	5,486	2,991	22,149	34,224	7,651	4,225
Egypt	9,019	8	1,354	5,396	1,473	426	237	71	54
Ethiopia ³	37,823	-	61	2	1,307	18,542	16,364	1,056	534
Other Africa	31,672	12	353	88	211	3,181	17,623	6,524	3,637
Oceania	427	7	75	21	37	22	186	59	20
North America	668,549	163	831	132,068	252,633	121,840	111,744	32,898	16,372
Cuba	618,109	3	6	131,557	251,514	113,367	76,370	30,377	14,915
El Salvador	5,379	-	-	1	45	1,383	3,623	198	129
Nicaragua	27,865	1	1	3	36	5,590	21,252	666	316
Other North America ..	17,196	159	824	507	1,038	1,500	10,499	1,657	1,012
South America	8,086	32	74	123	1,244	1,986	3,025	890	712
Chile	1,092	-	5	4	415	532	110	14	12
Colombia	1,363	NA	NA	NA	217	350	471	154	171
Peru	2,495	NA	NA	NA	132	251	1,285	489	338
Venezuela	1,592	NA	NA	NA	83	407	811	173	118
Other South America ..	1,544	32	69	119	397	446	348	60	73
Unknown or not reported	2,684	36	55	15	1	19	3	30	2,525

¹ Data for fiscal years 1971-90 have been adjusted. ² Includes People's Republic of China and Taiwan. NOTE: See Glossary for fiscal year definitions. The data no longer include Cuban/Haitian entrants granted immigrant status. ³ Includes Eritrea.

- Represents zero. NA Not available. X Not applicable.

**TABLE 33. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS BY AGE AND SEX
FISCAL YEARS 1991-98**

Age and sex	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Total	139,079	117,037	127,343	121,434	114,664	128,565	112,158	54,645
Under 5 years	6,721	5,760	5,563	5,181	4,509	4,303	3,424	1,589
5-9 years	13,578	11,304	11,496	10,198	9,163	9,525	8,721	4,146
10-14 years	12,494	9,250	9,971	9,451	9,287	10,737	9,963	4,510
15-19 years	13,270	12,224	11,654	9,596	8,076	8,153	7,669	3,976
20-24 years	12,859	13,280	13,869	13,115	13,199	14,210	11,573	4,813
25-29 years	14,522	11,895	12,094	11,148	11,491	14,009	12,816	5,997
30-34 years	15,044	10,738	10,703	9,978	9,433	11,897	11,900	5,952
35-39 years	13,275	9,170	9,151	8,420	7,860	9,226	8,867	4,745
40-44 years	10,790	8,078	9,068	8,031	7,546	8,620	7,806	3,611
45-49 years	5,871	6,130	7,949	7,827	7,707	9,078	7,402	3,201
50-54 years	5,148	5,207	6,294	5,969	5,574	6,467	5,654	2,453
55-59 years	3,689	4,008	5,491	6,064	5,862	6,663	4,994	2,003
60-64 years	3,780	3,481	4,747	5,053	4,594	4,846	3,704	1,736
65-69 years	3,782	3,002	4,281	4,945	4,267	4,587	3,238	1,346
70-74 years	2,023	1,655	2,443	3,143	2,905	3,062	2,001	957
75-79 years	1,266	991	1,305	1,649	1,502	1,494	1,077	561
80 years and over	938	819	1,223	1,641	1,676	1,674	1,335	592
Unknown age	29	45	41	25	13	14	14	2,457
Male	72,189	60,583	64,885	61,790	59,023	67,386	59,598	27,792
Under 5 years	3,549	3,062	2,836	2,660	2,279	2,198	1,798	804
5-9 years	6,972	5,766	5,910	5,259	4,776	4,950	4,496	2,115
10-14 years	6,595	4,913	5,122	4,841	4,835	5,619	5,105	2,435
15-19 years	7,417	6,724	6,170	5,067	4,282	4,342	4,020	2,088
20-24 years	6,841	7,131	7,337	6,987	7,190	7,590	6,207	2,519
25-29 years	7,690	6,381	6,518	6,290	6,457	8,196	7,389	3,480
30-34 years	7,870	5,487	5,481	5,415	5,274	6,832	7,060	3,466
35-39 years	6,971	4,640	4,544	4,176	3,901	4,867	4,806	2,624
40-44 years	5,714	4,079	4,280	3,748	3,582	4,135	3,910	1,844
45-49 years	3,249	3,293	4,248	4,019	3,816	4,538	3,776	1,637
50-54 years	2,711	2,726	3,383	3,168	3,034	3,575	3,142	1,329
55-59 years	1,814	2,037	2,699	2,860	2,839	3,325	2,598	1,069
60-64 years	1,594	1,630	2,344	2,421	2,289	2,375	1,896	835
65-69 years	1,545	1,295	1,924	2,306	2,112	2,313	1,669	707
70-74 years	828	702	1,072	1,321	1,209	1,305	915	412
75-79 years	478	395	535	644	575	626	408	237
80 years and over	338	297	457	592	569	591	396	190
Unknown age	13	25	25	16	4	9	7	1
Female	66,825	56,415	62,448	59,633	55,638	61,178	52,517	24,244
Under 5 years	3,169	2,698	2,727	2,519	2,230	2,105	1,626	777
5-9 years	6,597	5,534	5,584	4,937	4,387	4,574	4,221	2,022
10-14 years	5,891	4,336	4,847	4,608	4,452	5,118	4,854	2,059
15-19 years	5,843	5,496	5,483	4,527	3,794	3,811	3,645	1,878
20-24 years	6,011	6,145	6,531	6,128	6,009	6,620	5,359	2,277
25-29 years	6,827	5,506	5,576	4,857	5,034	5,813	5,418	2,502
30-34 years	7,170	5,244	5,222	4,563	4,159	5,065	4,839	2,464
35-39 years	6,303	4,528	4,606	4,243	3,958	4,359	4,060	2,111
40-44 years	5,066	3,998	4,787	4,282	3,964	4,485	3,890	1,753
45-49 years	2,619	2,834	3,699	3,808	3,891	4,540	3,625	1,556
50-54 years	2,437	2,479	2,911	2,801	2,540	2,892	2,511	1,119
55-59 years	1,874	1,970	2,792	3,204	3,023	3,338	2,394	927
60-64 years	2,186	1,849	2,403	2,632	2,304	2,471	1,806	897
65-69 years	2,235	1,707	2,357	2,639	2,155	2,274	1,568	636
70-74 years	1,193	953	1,371	1,822	1,696	1,757	1,086	543
75-79 years	788	596	770	1,005	926	868	669	321
80 years and over	600	522	766	1,049	1,107	1,083	939	401
Unknown age	16	20	16	9	9	5	7	1
Unknown sex	65	39	10	11	3	1	43	2,609
Percent distribution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	51.9	51.8	51.0	50.9	51.5	52.4	53.1	50.9
Female	48.0	48.2	49.0	49.1	48.5	47.6	46.8	44.4
Unknown	Z	-	-	-	-	-	Z	4.8

- Represents zero. Z Rounds to less than .05 percent.

**TABLE 34. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
BY REGION AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH
FISCAL YEARS 1989-98**

Region and country of birth	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
All countries	84,288	97,364	139,079	117,037	127,343	121,434	114,664	128,565	112,158	54,645
Europe	18,348	33,111	62,946	42,721	53,195	54,978	46,998	51,977	39,795	19,048
Albania	55	64	75	539	1,198	733	314	154	76	56
Austria	26	84	131	90	54	25	15	15	20	6
Belgium	3	1	1	1	2	2	-	3	4	2
Bulgaria	126	178	311	562	303	138	105	100	69	33
Czechoslovakia, former	640	883	659	319	119	41	38	25	40	15
Czech Republic	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	9
Slovak Republic	X	X	X	X	-	-	2	4	9	6
Unknown republic	640	883	659	319	119	41	36	21	31	-
Denmark	-	1	3	-	1	-	2	9	1	1
Estonia	-	5	9	155	125	176	83	98	89	18
Finland	1	3	2	2	3	-	2	-	-	1
France	36	34	34	13	15	10	7	24	18	3
Germany	X	X	214	94	82	84	61	90	79	55
Germany, East	8	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Germany, West	100	150	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Greece	185	315	127	28	39	65	50	33	11	8
Hungary	588	868	817	229	80	37	28	40	24	14
Ireland	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
Italy	44	86	206	105	32	11	7	17	14	7
Latvia	8	6	34	315	493	568	387	359	272	69
Liechtenstein	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	5	11	75	157	228	214	151	136	85	27
Netherlands	-	4	5	2	7	3	-	-	3	5
Norway	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	-
Poland	3,842	3,903	4,205	1,512	731	334	245	183	143	54
Portugal	-	2	2	-	4	2	3	1	1	-
Romania	3,338	3,186	4,276	4,971	3,654	1,199	592	447	322	116
Soviet Union, former	9,264	23,186	51,551	33,504	45,900	50,756	40,120	42,356	30,880	13,200
Armenia	X	X	X	479	329	342	214	182	213	158
Azerbaijan	X	X	X	1,551	2,790	2,668	1,594	1,446	1,000	196
Belarus	X	X	X	3,008	4,480	5,156	3,421	3,480	2,486	557
Georgia	X	X	X	255	213	392	383	591	425	100
Kazakhstan	X	X	X	460	544	595	600	624	612	152
Kyrgyzstan	X	X	X	123	114	210	155	177	200	49
Moldova	X	X	X	1,588	2,546	2,154	1,597	1,415	1,043	272
Russia	X	X	X	7,122	8,965	10,359	8,176	9,745	6,985	2,225
Tajikistan	X	X	X	167	301	534	654	535	239	24
Turkmenistan	X	X	X	30	40	50	71	78	66	10
Ukraine	X	X	X	13,347	16,977	19,366	14,937	16,636	12,137	3,641
Uzbekistan	X	X	X	1,550	2,475	3,211	3,258	4,144	2,885	292
Unknown republic	9,264	23,186	51,551	3,824	6,126	5,719	5,060	3,303	2,589	5,524
Spain	37	84	96	50	37	55	33	46	29	31
Sweden	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	3	1	3
Switzerland	1	5	10	4	3	2	1	3	4	3
United Kingdom	17	23	34	7	7	17	9	11	12	9
Yugoslavia, former	23	23	66	58	77	506	4744	7820	7,597	5,312
Bosnia-Herzegovina	X	X	X	X	-	337	3,818	6,246	6,205	4,060
Croatia	X	X	X	X	2	11	117	236	287	211
Macedonia	X	X	X	X	-	4	20	20	19	32
Slovenia	X	X	X	X	-	-	11	17	18	16
Unknown	23	23	66	58	75	154	778	1,301	1,068	993
Asia	56,751	51,867	49,762	53,422	51,783	45,768	43,314	42,076	30,835	11,743
Afghanistan	2,606	2,144	2,100	2,082	2,233	1,665	616	369	356	137
Bahrain	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bangladesh	-	-	15	10	7	19	36	50	91	159
Burma	3	2	16	19	78	114	136	101	82	79
Cambodia	5,648	4,719	2,550	1,695	808	557	268	210	163	62
China, People's Republic	500	330	620	884	1,153	774	803	845	692	898
Cyprus	11	8	4	-	-	3	2	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 34. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
BY REGION AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH
FISCAL YEARS 1989-98—Continued**

Region and country of birth	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Hong Kong	66	30	75	193	90	82	48	47	19	5
India	27	14	47	34	103	133	323	485	462	373
Indonesia	77	28	12	13	16	41	62	30	8	4
Iran	8,167	8,649	8,515	3,093	3,875	2,186	1,245	1,212	1,447	754
Iraq	191	141	193	365	1,856	4,400	3,848	3,802	1,774	999
Israel	8	16	10	10	20	29	34	32	25	6
Japan	4	1	4	5	3	4	2	-	-	1
Jordan	9	17	15	15	42	48	64	58	46	21
Korea	4	2	1	-	1	3	5	4	3	2
Kuwait	4	4	11	13	114	94	63	74	46	29
Laos	12,033	9,824	9,127	8,026	6,547	4,482	3,364	2,155	1,363	1,110
Lebanon	116	118	318	140	204	88	48	77	68	39
Malaysia	72	59	93	88	37	49	44	15	16	-
Maldives	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Mongolia	-	-	2	3	4	4	2	3	7	-
Nepal	-	-	-	-	3	-	5	7	12	1
Pakistan	142	157	166	129	185	181	197	194	280	130
Philippines	361	290	249	221	122	103	80	80	68	16
Qatar	1	-	-	6	2	5	3	1	-	-
Saudi Arabia	13	15	33	19	24	75	126	280	135	79
Singapore	4	3	2	2	-	1	1	1	5	1
Sri Lanka	2	6	59	22	62	33	30	42	46	27
Syria	273	393	252	96	115	34	258	208	146	707
Taiwan	2	3	5	10	1	-	2	2	1	-
Thailand	4,347	4,077	3,603	4,048	3,724	3,076	2,932	1,940	1,112	1,134
Turkey	175	276	109	16	79	156	58	42	35	21
United Arab Emirates	2	1	6	2	15	7	9	4	9	5
Vietnam	21,883	20,537	21,543	32,155	30,249	27,318	28,595	29,700	22,297	4,921
Yemen	-	3	5	5	9	4	4	6	19	22
Other Asia	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1
Africa	2,269	2,212	4,731	4,480	5,944	6,078	7,527	5,464	7,651	4,225
Algeria	-	3	-	-	2	3	3	16	46	33
Angola	19	14	22	25	13	7	4	11	4	2
Benin	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	1	1	1
Burundi	3	-	4	5	4	6	4	17	41	43
Cameroon	-	-	3	-	12	14	33	68	89	55
Cape Verde	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Central African Republic	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Chad	-	-	1	1	3	2	3	4	2	1
Congo, Democratic Republic ¹	20	14	57	72	109	113	130	175	146	55
Congo, Republic ¹	-	-	6	1	-	-	2	-	4	2
Cote d'Ivoire	-	-	2	-	3	15	19	24	19	20
Djibouti	-	4	1	2	3	6	-	-	-	7
Egypt	49	69	52	18	35	37	29	66	71	54
Eritrea	X	X	X	X	43	200	204	68	45	27
Ethiopia	1,784	1,682	3,582	3,268	3,682	2,530	1,802	985	1,056	507
Gabon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-
Gambia, The	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	10	23
Ghana	21	59	64	16	35	37	54	56	67	42
Guinea	-	-	-	1	2	7	7	21	10	14
Kenya	17	31	32	42	42	98	165	171	291	234
Lesotho	3	5	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	7	26	42	25	239	851	855	700	505	225
Libya	71	84	175	143	172	27	28	24	13	4
Malawi	-	3	9	3	-	4	2	-	2	2
Mali	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	4
Mauritania	-	-	-	1	7	4	10	10	35	64
Mauritius	-	-	-	2	1	3	1	5	4	-
Morocco	1	1	4	1	3	3	1	5	1	2
Mozambique	7	8	3	9	16	3	-	-	-	-
Namibia	8	5	6	6	17	5	-	-	-	3
Nigeria	2	1	20	9	14	21	26	40	80	112

See footnotes at end of table.

**TABLE 34. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
BY REGION AND SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH
FISCAL YEARS 1989-98—Continued**

Region and country of birth	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Rwanda	-	1	-	1	4	8	13	84	140	34
Senegal	-	-	2	2	2	-	1	7	9	3
Seychelles	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone	-	-	4	3	2	4	25	44	78	52
Somalia	33	38	282	330	885	1,572	3,095	1,700	3,607	2,270
South Africa	80	35	77	33	37	6	23	9	7	1
Sudan	97	60	184	369	443	402	935	1,089	1,119	287
Swaziland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tanzania	1	1	3	3	1	-	1	3	3	1
Togo	-	-	-	1	2	5	8	17	52	22
Tunisia	-	1	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	-
Uganda	29	54	54	64	87	79	36	24	46	15
Zambia	9	-	17	4	10	3	7	6	3	1
Zimbabwe	3	6	3	4	6	2	-	9	5	1
Other Africa	5	6	-	5	3	1	-	-	31	2
Oceania	1	-	1	9	34	23	63	56	59	20
Australia	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	2	-	-
Fiji	-	-	-	8	31	22	61	54	59	20
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Oceania	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
North America	6,740	9,910	21,317	15,962	15,926	14,204	16,265	28,070	32,898	16,372
Canada	6	5	14	5	8	10	5	3	12	6
Mexico	46	60	74	29	29	15	37	47	60	41
United States	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	1	8	2
Caribbean	5,272	7,700	8,005	9,969	11,700	12,672	14,888	26,597	31,479	15,480
Bahamas, The	-	1	3	2	4	-	1	2	1	-
Cuba	5,245	7,668	7,953	9,919	11,603	11,998	12,355	22,542	30,377	14,915
Dominica	3	4	1	-	4	-	-	1	-	1
Dominican Republic	10	20	14	27	18	8	22	19	26	18
Grenada	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Haiti	11	-	31	16	68	664	2,502	4,028	1,074	537
Jamaica	2	5	2	1	3	1	4	3	-	2
St. Vincent & Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Trinidad & Tobago	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2
Other Caribbean	-	1	1	4	-	-	2	-	1	5
Central America	1,416	2,143	13,221	5,959	4,188	1,507	1,335	1,422	1,339	843
Belize	8	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-
Costa Rica	22	37	64	31	29	20	8	18	20	10
El Salvador	198	245	1,249	743	811	275	283	262	198	129
Guatemala	33	58	296	169	210	131	158	234	327	264
Honduras	58	66	133	105	165	81	119	119	109	108
Nicaragua	1,075	1,694	11,233	4,668	2,892	966	727	766	666	316
Panama	22	43	246	243	81	33	38	21	19	16
South America	175	264	320	442	461	383	497	922	890	712
Argentina	8	21	8	15	4	9	11	13	12	13
Bolivia	2	10	6	3	6	10	9	17	10	12
Brazil	7	6	10	7	11	9	10	18	16	14
Chile	19	20	38	16	17	8	10	21	14	12
Colombia	38	63	46	74	63	70	102	116	154	171
Ecuador	9	17	14	6	25	25	11	15	10	30
Guyana	-	-	1	-	4	3	3	-	7	4
Paraguay	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Peru	29	35	73	74	176	153	241	568	489	338
Suriname	-	1	2	27	16	2	4	3	1	-
Uruguay	1	3	2	-	4	2	1	-	3	-
Venezuela	62	87	120	220	135	91	95	150	173	118
Unknown or not reported	4	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	30	2,525

¹ On May 30, 1997, Zaire was formally recognized as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. With this change of Zaire, the Congo is shown in the long form, Republic of the Congo. NOTE: Data for fiscal years 1987-88 have been adjusted. The data no longer include Cuban/Haitian entrants granted immigrant status. - Represents zero. X Not applicable.

**TABLE 35. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS BY SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH AND SELECTED METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA OF RESIDENCE
FISCAL YEAR 1998**

Metropolitan statistical area ¹	All countries	Belarus	Bosnia-Herzegovina	China, People's Republic	Cuba	Haiti	Iran	Iraq	Laos
Total	54,645	557	4,060	898	14,915	537	754	999	1,110
Miami, FL	11,602	-	4	1	10,573	169	-	-	2
New York, NY	6,953	73	102	701	102	51	72	5	-
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	2,441	44	91	26	139	2	423	20	1
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA	1,579	18	77	6	23	-	32	34	10
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1,477	13	36	20	26	-	22	20	3
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	1,380	19	35	3	9	-	1	1	157
Chicago, IL	1,372	2	499	1	81	-	6	60	-
Portland-Vancouver, OR-WA	1,222	12	78	1	82	6	2	7	3
Fresno, CA	1,137	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	467
San Jose, CA	1,090	2	157	4	5	-	19	3	-
Detroit, MI	844	5	156	-	7	-	6	330	6
Sacramento, CA	724	41	5	2	3	-	4	1	45
Atlanta, GA	675	2	98	2	68	2	3	5	-
Boston-Lawrence-Lowell-Brockton, MA	664	12	45	8	28	8	4	30	-
San Diego, CA	648	6	20	-	11	-	1	104	8
Louisville, KY	616	-	97	-	229	-	1	25	-
San Francisco, CA	613	14	76	17	16	1	8	3	-
Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	604	-	215	1	17	-	32	33	3
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	586	-	20	-	472	17	-	1	-
Fort Lauderdale, FL	574	-	10	-	334	80	-	1	-
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	509	3	5	6	27	4	1	1	4
Denver, CO	453	16	50	-	18	-	2	12	7
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL	404	-	4	-	319	47	-	-	-
Orange County, CA	393	-	6	-	3	-	10	1	1
Baltimore, MD	386	34	17	2	22	1	9	2	-
Dallas, TX	381	2	52	1	61	-	2	42	5
Utica-Rome, NY	379	44	281	-	2	-	-	2	1
Rochester, NY	362	-	84	-	92	-	-	1	1
Spokane, WA	359	24	14	-	2	-	-	2	7
St. Louis, MO-IL	353	10	173	-	5	-	-	18	-
Oakland, CA	319	-	45	11	12	-	6	3	1
Orlando, FL	295	-	20	1	200	23	-	1	-
Cleveland-Lorain-Elyria, OH	257	1	74	-	4	-	-	2	-
Jersey City, NJ	256	-	1	4	192	7	-	-	-
Las Vegas, NV	245	-	8	-	175	6	5	1	2
Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI	244	19	12	1	1	-	-	1	37
Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland, MI	230	1	80	-	52	1	1	1	-
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	229	27	18	1	8	2	8	15	-
Houston, TX	226	-	13	1	20	-	4	-	-
Columbus, OH	220	6	7	-	4	-	-	6	3
Tacoma, WA	211	6	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA	198	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92
Newark, NJ	197	3	5	4	71	4	-	1	-
Nashville, TN	195	-	6	-	25	-	-	30	-
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC	190	1	22	4	31	-	-	-	-
Kansas City, MO-KS	177	-	2	1	12	-	2	12	3
Jacksonville, FL	170	3	73	-	38	-	-	1	-
Richmond-Petersburg, VA	165	12	24	1	8	-	3	-	-
Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA	161	-	52	1	-	-	1	1	-
Nassua-Suffolk, NY	160	-	6	17	13	6	20	-	-
Other MSA	5,886	67	886	42	916	89	26	146	186
Non-MSA	3,634	15	199	7	356	11	8	14	55

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 35. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS BY SELECTED COUNTRY OF BIRTH AND SELECTED METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA OF RESIDENCE
FISCAL YEAR 1998—Continued

Metropolitan statistical area ¹	Russia	Somalia	Soviet Union ²	Syria	Thailand	Ukraine	Vietnam	Yugo- slavia ²	Other
Total	2,225	2,270	5,524	707	1,134	3,641	4,921	993	9,400
Miami, FL	29	-	33	-	-	4	-	4	783
New York, NY	198	7	2,997	676	-	540	83	589	757
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	139	4	446	6	3	315	110	10	662
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA	250	160	166	2	4	321	182	19	275
Washington, DC-MD-VA	71	270	17	-	-	55	255	8	661
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	75	434	126	-	173	69	32	32	214
Chicago, IL	38	22	397	2	-	49	57	28	130
Portland-Vancouver, OR-WA	210	50	145	1	2	336	123	7	157
Fresno, CA	16	-	5	1	475	60	65	-	40
San Jose, CA	37	44	11	-	7	34	671	10	86
Detroit, MI	50	7	41	3	9	24	17	50	133
Sacramento, CA	73	1	72	-	51	205	61	3	157
Atlanta, GA	19	105	8	-	1	13	279	-	70
Boston-Lawrence-Lowell-Brockton, MA	39	101	203	-	2	53	68	3	60
San Diego, CA	25	186	5	-	3	42	123	3	111
Louisville, KY	1	43	46	-	-	5	129	1	39
San Francisco, CA	70	-	42	-	1	179	25	3	158
Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	14	82	9	-	-	7	92	12	87
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	2	-	-	-	-	7	41	2	24
Fort Lauderdale, FL	9	-	19	-	-	7	2	3	109
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	25	7	128	-	3	113	92	3	87
Denver, CO	98	8	25	-	1	66	106	3	41
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL	-	-	2	-	-	2	7	-	23
Orange County, CA	7	3	1	4	1	2	237	5	112
Baltimore, MD	47	13	51	-	-	95	17	-	76
Dallas, TX	12	13	16	-	2	12	108	1	52
Utica-Rome, NY	-	-	-	-	-	19	4	2	24
Rochester, NY	7	22	33	-	2	69	19	-	32
Spokane, WA	100	-	-	-	6	53	100	2	49
St. Louis, MO-IL	43	27	1	-	-	10	37	8	21
Oakland, CA	7	1	14	-	-	24	31	1	163
Orlando, FL	-	1	-	-	1	1	34	3	10
Cleveland-Lorain-Elyria, OH	32	8	30	-	-	45	10	2	49
Jersey City, NJ	3	-	-	-	-	4	16	1	28
Las Vegas, NV	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	42
Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI	7	14	38	-	43	46	3	4	18
Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland, MI	13	17	1	-	-	3	36	8	16
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	-	30	16	-	-	12	80	-	12
Houston, TX	2	9	12	-	-	6	98	-	61
Columbus, OH	3	63	41	-	4	33	9	-	41
Tacoma, WA	32	-	29	-	-	72	47	-	22
Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA	-	-	-	-	106	-	-	-	-
Newark, NJ	17	-	16	-	-	28	2	7	39
Nashville, TN	12	74	1	-	-	-	10	-	37
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC	1	24	-	-	-	10	69	1	27
Kansas City, MO-KS	1	54	4	-	2	3	53	-	28
Jacksonville, FL	3	2	1	-	-	8	30	1	10
Richmond-Petersburg, VA	15	37	7	-	-	20	9	1	28
Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA	-	8	3	-	-	1	79	-	15
Nassua-Suffolk, NY	-	-	14	-	-	3	9	15	57
Other MSA	336	262	213	12	180	488	1,015	113	909
Non-MSA	37	57	39	-	52	68	138	20	2,558

¹ Ranked by the number of refugees and asylees. See Glossary for definition of metropolitan statistical area. ² Data are for unknown republic; exclude independent republics. See Notice of Special Geographic Definitions.

- Represents zero.

**TABLE 36. REFUGEES AND ASYLEES GRANTED LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
BY STATE OF RESIDENCE
FISCAL YEARS 1989-98**

State of residence	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Total	84,288	97,364	139,079	117,037	127,343	121,434	114,664	128,565	112,158	54,645
Alabama	182	127	136	94	118	106	67	95	56	48
Alaska	41	27	72	56	62	47	20	72	28	26
Arizona	655	682	890	608	973	708	628	333	289	106
Arkansas	190	76	122	99	150	111	91	96	94	45
California	36,136	38,507	45,594	38,261	39,516	29,284	26,104	20,233	23,046	8,309
Colorado	705	578	1,342	1,114	1,106	1,186	1,296	1,416	1,102	553
Connecticut	788	1,162	1,767	1,111	1,116	904	956	864	552	169
Delaware	28	48	107	39	47	51	37	59	17	23
District of Columbia	225	295	508	408	355	413	445	506	457	188
Florida	5,750	9,145	15,064	14,035	14,344	14,108	14,527	23,535	28,672	14,093
Georgia	787	989	1,777	1,467	1,765	2,287	2,672	2,645	3,206	769
Hawaii	320	255	261	245	241	239	240	208	70	8
Idaho	125	114	139	169	146	217	190	387	126	55
Illinois	3,231	3,419	5,679	4,411	3,906	4,122	5,060	5,040	3,798	1,471
Indiana	113	130	433	248	457	463	424	585	410	394
Iowa	331	467	544	445	654	467	733	851	1,020	180
Kansas	991	291	508	691	623	655	473	755	359	136
Kentucky	129	66	84	348	286	267	430	486	394	808
Louisiana	706	470	898	938	660	614	376	909	577	219
Maine	137	165	281	141	131	127	135	257	219	80
Maryland	1,062	1,242	2,148	2,275	1,497	2,774	2,244	2,136	1,716	935
Massachusetts	3,758	4,724	5,289	3,461	4,303	3,824	3,639	3,445	2,496	793
Michigan	1,164	1,221	2,384	1,916	2,596	2,594	2,979	3,001	1,597	1,250
Minnesota	2,251	2,656	3,027	2,338	2,678	2,989	3,635	3,787	3,210	1,696
Mississippi	121	124	80	120	66	75	38	116	130	41
Missouri	510	534	908	692	1,029	1,338	1,303	1,733	1,027	516
Montana	23	9	131	61	61	42	15	48	19	20
Nebraska	104	175	221	143	663	490	574	362	726	36
Nevada	248	358	464	377	400	297	411	444	572	263
New Hampshire	120	139	189	227	155	144	185	257	236	86
New Jersey	2,335	1,339	3,141	2,603	3,188	2,680	2,058	3,665	2,068	826
New Mexico	133	26	142	166	215	196	179	282	195	102
New York	6,289	12,871	22,105	14,097	16,986	20,846	19,721	24,625	13,638	8,430
North Carolina	470	337	649	684	887	1,162	863	884	764	422
North Dakota	26	70	42	49	180	311	138	271	281	183
Ohio	1,164	770	1,375	2,734	2,378	2,254	1,791	1,668	1,362	664
Oklahoma	247	214	204	404	258	419	418	487	133	62
Oregon	912	1,315	2,624	1,746	2,619	1,935	766	1,813	1,958	760
Pennsylvania	2,343	2,983	3,953	3,827	3,748	3,313	3,125	2,712	2,261	711
Rhode Island	469	395	635	488	385	321	287	284	91	71
South Carolina	62	67	130	74	150	120	154	142	173	55
South Dakota	67	52	196	176	213	326	279	200	130	76
Tennessee	512	448	525	668	869	942	1,152	1,030	1,140	331
Texas	2,703	2,866	4,911	3,957	4,862	4,576	4,272	6,415	2,749	982
Utah	306	364	513	363	441	500	414	650	135	612
Vermont	29	85	139	68	67	70	112	177	183	103
Virginia	1,808	1,692	2,403	1,891	1,766	2,258	2,054	2,544	1,914	1,094
Washington	2,161	1,605	2,194	5,063	6,018	6,330	4,793	5,271	6,305	2,874
West Virginia	8	5	31	-	6	3	6	10	2	5
Wisconsin	1,251	1,578	2,011	1,302	1,868	1,814	2,052	561	329	418
Wyoming	-	6	4	3	1	4	1	4	4	-
U.S. territories and possessions										
Guam	-	4	6	16	1	-	13	14	7	4
Puerto Rico	62	77	97	120	133	109	84	194	114	90
U.S. Virgin Islands	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	1	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2,454

NOTE: Data for fiscal years 1987-88 have been adjusted. The data no longer include Cuban/Haitian entrants granted immigrant status. - Represents zero.